

Jody Owens elected as Hinds County District Attorney without runoff

By Othor Cain
Editor

In a three-person race that became personal, brutal and sometimes exhausting, Jody Owens, former managing attorney at the Mississippi office of the Southern Poverty Law Center, was elected as the next district attorney for Hinds County.

Owens, defeated Jackson defense attorney Darla Palmer and veteran prosecutor Stanley Alexander in last week’s Democratic primary. No independent or Republican entered the race.

Owens, who will replace Robert Shuler Smith, received 53% of the votes in unofficial results, while Palmer received 33% and Alexander 14%. Smith did not seek reelection and ran unsuccessfully for governor as a Democrat.

Owens boldly ran on a platform that the Hinds County Criminal Justice System is broken. “I intend to make good on my campaign promises,” Owens said. “It’s about creating an environment in Hinds County where businesses flourish, families feel safe and our children thrive.”

At a forum where he was the only candidate to attend, Owens said, “Instead of making communities safer, mass incarceration is making the situation worse.” “I want to change that,” he shared.

Owens said that one of his primary focuses will be to make sure those who commit crimes are punished but he understands that we can’t ‘arrest’ our way out of what is happening in Jackson and across the county. “We’ve got to protect our vulnerable populations (seniors and children), and I intend to do that,” he said. “But I also understand the need for rehabilitation and I’m committed to helping everyone.

Owens also ran on a SMART Justice platform which is why helping people is very important to him. “Smart Justice includes re-entry programs for ex-offenders, mental health and rehabilitation treatment for those with addiction, support to the families of those affected



Owens

by violence and collaborating with community organizations to find ways to reduce crime,” he said. “I’m committed to this and just like the voters elected me this past Tuesday, they can un-elect me if I fail to live up to these challenges.”

Owens graduated from Jackson State University and earned his law degree at Howard University School of Law. He has litigated class-action lawsuits on behalf of children and adults on matters like mass incarceration, private prisons and the school-to-prison pipeline.

Toni Cooley appointed to the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta’s N.O. Branch Board



Cooley

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Toni D. Cooley, chief executive officer of Systems Electro Coating, Systems Automotive Interiors, Systems Consultants Associates and Systems IT, has been appointed to the board of directors of the Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta’s New Orleans Branch. Her term began July 25, 2019,

Cooley Continued on page 3

La’Verne Edney selected president of Mississippi Bar Foundation



Edney

The Mississippi Link Newswire

A distinguished attorney and community leader for decades, La’Verne Edney serves as the new president of the Mississippi Bar Foundation.

A 1996 graduate of the Mississippi College School of Law, Edney brings significant trial experience in state and federal courts. Among her past honors, the Jackson resident

Edney Continued on page 3

Largest US immigration raids in a decade net 680 arrests in MS

By Rogelio V. Solis and Jeff Amy
Associated Press

U.S. immigration officials raided seven Mississippi chicken processing plants Aug. 7, arresting 680 mostly Latino workers in the largest workplace sting in at least a decade.

The raids, planned months ago, happened just hours before President Donald Trump visited El Paso, Texas, the majority-Latino border city where a man linked to an online screed about a “Hispanic invasion” was charged in a shooting that left 22 people dead.

“On a day when we seek unifying words and acts to heal the nation’s broken heart, President Trump allows so many families and communities to be torn apart,” said Angelica Salas, executive director of the Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights.

About 600 U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement agents fanned out across the plants operated by five compa-



A man is taken into custody at a Koch Foods Inc. plant in Morton, Miss., on Wednesday, Aug. 7, 2019. U.S. immigration officials raided several Mississippi food processing plants on Wednesday and signaled that the early-morning strikes were part of a large-scale operation targeting owners as well as employees. AP PHOTO/ROGELIO V. SOLIS

nies, surrounding the perimeters to prevent workers from fleeing.

In Morton, about 40 miles east of the capital of Jackson, workers filled three buses – two for men and one for women – at a Koch Foods Inc. plant.

Those arrested were taken to a military hangar to be processed for immigration viola-

employees tried to flee on foot but were captured in the parking lot.

Workers, including Domingo Candelaria, who could show they were in the country legally were allowed to leave the plant after agents searched the trunks of their vehicles.

“It was a sad situation inside,” Candelaria said.

Mississippi is the nation’s fifth-largest chicken producing state and the plants’ tough processing jobs have mainly been filled by Latino immigrants eager to take whatever work they can get. Chicken plants dominate the economies of Morton and other small towns east of Jackson.

Based in Park Ridge, Illinois, Koch is one of the largest poultry producers in the U.S, with operations in Mississippi and five other states. The company didn’t respond to telephone calls and emails seeking comment.

Raids Continued on page 3



MPB welcomes four new board members

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Mississippi Public Broadcasting welcomed three new members to its Board of Directors during its regularly scheduled board meeting July 23. A fourth new member confirmed his board assignment July 24. The board will serve for fiscal year 2020.

The new members are:

William Bynum, president of Jackson State University. A native of Rocky Mount, North Carolina, Bynum earned his bachelor's degree in sociology from Davidson College, where he also minored in education. He earned his master's and Ph.D. in sociology from Duke University. Bynum has previously served as president of Mississippi Valley State University, vice president for enrollment management and student services at Morehouse College, vice president for student affairs and enrollment management at Lincoln University in Pennsylvania and associate vice president and dean of students at Clark Atlanta University.

Whitney Lipscomb, deputy chief of staff and counsel to Gov. Phil Bryant. Lipscomb previously practiced law at Balch & Bingham LLP in Gulfport. She earned her juris doctor from the University of Mississippi School of Law and her bachelor's degree from Mississippi State University. Prior to law school, Lipscomb worked as the finance director

for Congressman Stephen Fincher's first campaign and served a stint on Capitol Hill as a Running Start Fellow.

Richard Sawyer, director of Choirs and the Fine Arts Department chair at Ocean Springs High School as well as the director of music at First Presbyterian Church, Pascagoula. Sawyer studied voice and performance at the Eastman School of Music, The University of Southern Mississippi and The University of South Alabama. Sawyer has performed in several lead opera roles throughout the country, and he is also an accomplished recitalist.

Shawn Mackey, deputy executive director for Programs and Accountability for the Mississippi Community College Board. Mackey is a three-time graduate of Delta State University with bachelor's degrees in criminal justice and psychology and a master's degree in social science education. He received his doctor of education degree from the University of Memphis in the area of higher education administration. He has worked in non-profit for eight years and in higher education for 10 years as an instructor and assistant dean of Career Technical Education at Coahoma Community College.

Continuing MPB board members are Pete Smith, Bob Sawyer and David Allen.

The Museum is pleased to announce the reinstallation of its permanent collection galleries

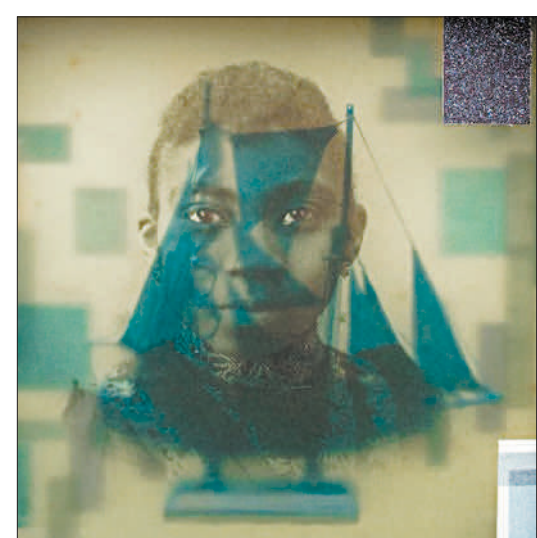
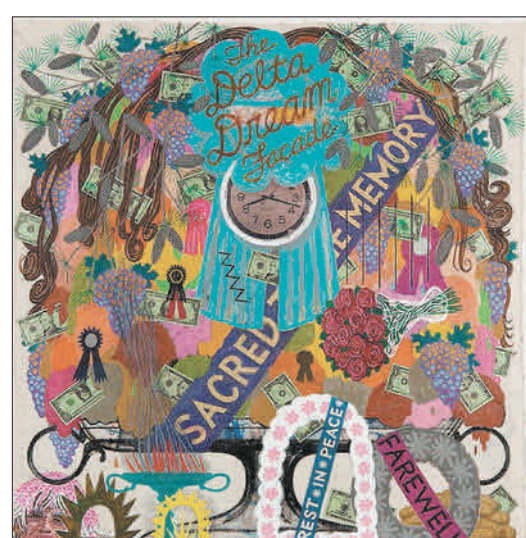
The Mississippi Link Newswire

New Symphony of Time is an exhibition that illuminates and expands the boundaries of Mississippi's identity.

Mississippi, as a real place and also as a metaphor for the basic struggles of our country, has inspired artworks that express the need to understand the concrete realities of living with each other in this moment, as well as our deep connection to those gone before us and our legacies to those who follow.

Exploring themes of ancestry and memory; migration, movement and home; shared humanity; the natural environment; and liberty for all, the exhibition is inspired by Margaret Walker's epic poem, "This Is My Century: Black Synthesis of Time."

Drawn primarily from the museum's permanent collection, this exhibition of approximately 170 works includes many prominent artists, such as Benny Andrews, Radcliffe Bailey, Romare Bearden, Albert Bierstadt, Elizabeth Catlett, Jeffrey Gibson, Titus Kaphar, Glenn Ligon, Deborah Luster, Georgia O'Keeffe and Hank Willis Thomas. Mississippi artists include the state's first native-born professional artist, James Tooley, Jr., and Richmond Barthé, McArthur Bin-



ion, Dusti Bongé, Marie Hull, Sam Gilliam, Gwendolyn A. Magee, George Ohr, and Eudora Welty.

New Symphony of Time lays the groundwork for an ever-evolving visitor experience that includes transparency of the exhibition process through the museum's Community Advisory Council, a

program directed by the museum's Center for Art & Public Exchange (CAPE). This initiative provides the curatorial team and community with the unique opportunity to work collaboratively to explore new creative strategies for developing the museum's public interfaces, identifying new artists and continuing to

expand on themes together.

The exhibition opens September 7 and remains on view with select artworks and wall text changing over time, enabling visitors to make new connections from different perspectives.

This exhibition and its programs are free and open to the public.



LIVE HEALTHY BLUE

Blue Cross Blue Shield of Mississippi

www.bcbms.com

Blue

Edney

Continued from page 1

was named Lawyer of the Year by the MC Law School in 2018.

Mississippi Bar Foundation officials recognize outstanding attorneys in the profession. Foundation leaders administer a fund that’s awarded more than \$12 million to law-related, public interest projects since 1984.

Edney is a member of Butler Snow’s litigation department. She practices with its Pharmaceutical, Medical Device and Healthcare Litigation Group in Jackson.

“We congratulate La’Verne on this significant achievement,” said Don Clark, an attorney and chair of Butler Snow. “We look forward to her continued vision and leadership as she serves the foundation and helps chart their future strategy.”

Her service as president of the Jackson-based foundation for the 2019-2020 year began August 1.

Edney serves with the MC Board of Trustees, the board of the Mississippi Center for Justice, as well as panels of the Magnolia Speech School and Greater Jackson Chamber.

A 1988 Alcorn State University graduate, Edney offers more than 22 years of litigation experience. She received the Distinguished Service Award from the Mississippi Bar in 2012.

Edney’s appointment to lead the Mississippi Bar Foundation the next twelve months is well-deserved, Mississippi College administrators say.

“La’Verne Edney will be an exceptional leader of the Mississippi Bar Foundation,” said Patricia Bennett, dean of MC Law School in Jackson.

“She will lead with integrity and unwavering passion, especially concerning matters where the foundation is involved in making invaluable financial contributions to the community,” Bennett added. “She has a heart for being of service to others.”

Over the years, the Mississippi Bar Foundation provided scholarship assistance and support to the state’s two law schools and backed law-related public education programs. That includes the statewide high school mock trial competition.

MC Interim Provost Debbie Norris extends her congratulations to Mississippi Bar officials for recently selecting Edney.

“La’Verne has a strong service record to Mississippi College and to her community at large,” Norris said. “I am so impressed by her willingness to work for the Mississippi Volunteer Lawyer’s Project. I’m proud to call her an MC alumna and friend.”

Edney serves as a member of the Mississippi Women Lawyers’ Association and the Metro Jackson Black Women Lawyers’ Association.

Cooley

Continued from page 1

and runs through December 31, 2022.

Cooley has served in her current positions since 2016. She became an entrepreneur in 2001 as co-founder and president of Systems Electro Coating in 2001, then owner and president of Systems IT in 2002. In 2011 she founded and began serving as president of Systems Automotive Interiors, and became chief executive officer of Systems IT. Before becoming an entrepreneur, she served as president of Systems Consultants Associates beginning in 1994. Prior to that, she was an administrator at Turner Broadcasting Company from 1992 to 1994 and worked as a legislative assistant in the U.S. House of Representatives in the 1980s.

Cooley is a member of the boards of directors of Trustmark and Sanderson Farms. She is a former board member of Mississippi Today, the William Winter Institute for Racial Reconciliation, Mississippi Home Corporation, MS State Board for Community and Junior Colleges and Innovate Mississippi. Over the years she has been associated with the Center for Social Entrepreneurship, Southern Automotive Women’s Forum, Community Foundation,

MS Automotive Manufacturers Association, Mississippi Chapter of the International Women’s Forum, YMCA, MS Economic Council, the MS Minority Contractors Association, Leadership Jackson, and Jackson Public Schools. Cooley was awarded the Women of Distinction Award by the Girl Scout Council of Middle Mississippi.

Cooley earned a bachelor’s degree in business administration from Stephens College and a juris doctor degree from the University of Minnesota.

Federal Reserve Bank of Atlanta branch directors provide economic information from the branch territory to the district bank’s president and head office directors, who use the information in discussing monetary policy options and making discount rate recommendations.

Cooley was appointed by the Atlanta Fed’s board of directors to serve a three-year term after completing an unexpired term. The Board of Governors appoints three of the directors of the New Orleans Branch, and the Atlanta head office directors appoint four.

Raids

Continued from page 1

Matthew Albence, ICE’s acting director, told The Associated Press in an interview Wednesday in Pearl, just down the road from the Koch plant, that the raids could be the largest-ever workplace operation in any single state. Asked about their coinciding with Trump’s visit to El Paso, Albence responded, “This is a long-term operation that’s been going on.” He said raids are “racially neutral” and based on evidence of illegal residency.

The companies involved could be charged with knowingly hiring workers who are in the county illegally and will be scrutinized for tax, document and wage fraud, Albence said.

Bill Chandler, executive director of the Mississippi Immigrant Rights Alliance, called the “terrible” raids “another effort to drive Latinos out of Mississippi,” and he blamed Trump for fanning racism with his past incendiary comments about immigrants.

“This is the same thing that Trump is doing at the border with the Border Patrol,” he said, referring to the increased crackdown on migrants coming into the U.S.

Major immigration raids were common under President George W. Bush, including one at a kosher meatpacking plant in Postville, Iowa, in 2008 that resulted in about 400 arrests. President Barack Obama avoided them, limiting workplace immigration efforts to low-profile audits.

Trump resumed workplace raids, but the months of preparation and hefty resources they require make them rare. Last year, the administration targeted a landscaping company near Toledo, Ohio, and a meatpacking plant in eastern Tennessee. The former owner of the Tennessee plant was sentenced to 18 months in prison last month.

On Wednesday, a hangar at a Mississippi Air National Guard

base in Flowood, adjoining the Jackson airport, was set up to process those who were detained. Employees formed seven lines, one for each workplace raided, with fingerprint scanners and document printers at each interview station.

Cooling misters blew in front of fans, and 2,000 catered meals were ordered.

Agents who arrived at the Morton plant passed a chain-link fence with a sign that said the company was hiring. Workers’ wrists were tied with plastic bands and they deposited personal belongings in clear plastic bags.

“This will affect the economy,” Maria Isabel Ayala, a child care worker for plant employees, said as the buses left. “Without them here, how will you get your chicken?”

Other companies targeted in the raids included Peco Foods Inc., which has plants in Bay Springs, Canton and Sebastopol; PH Food Inc. in Morton; MP Food Inc. in Pelahatchie and Pearl River Foods Inc. in Carthage.

“We are fully cooperating with the authorities in their investigation and are navigating a potential disruption of operations,” Peco, based in Tuscaloosa, Alabama, said in a statement. The company added that it participates in E-Verify, a government program to screen new hires for immigration status.

No one answered the phone at Pearl River Foods. A woman who answered the phone at PH Food declined to comment or identify herself. A telephone listing could not be found for MP Food.

Amy reported from Pearl, Mississippi. Associated Press reporter Elliot Spagat in San Diego contributed to this report.

Need speed, coverage and control? Done, done, and done.

Work, family, side ggg, and a social life — you’re doing it all. Let Xfinity help make it easy. Get the speed to surf, stream, and download all at the same time. Enjoy great WiFi coverage throughout your home. Plus, see who’s on your network and pause WiFi at the press of a button. With Xfinity xFi, handling your business is simple, easy, awesome.

Call 1-800-xfinity, go to [xfinity.com](https://www.xfinity.com), or visit your local Xfinity store today.



Hi,
Mississippi.

Join Google for
free workshops
to help you grow
your skills, career,
or business.

Coming to Mississippi
Week of August 26
g.co/GrowMississippi

Grow with Google

MISSISSIPPI



Local comedienne to leave Mississippi to further career in New York

Mississippi Link Newswire

Jackson native and entertainer, Rita Brent, also known as Rita B. or “the Patty Peck Honda Lady” is moving to New York to further her comedy career. Before she leaves, she is hosting a huge comedy show, Saturday, September 28, at The Alamo Theater in Jackson called, “Sipp on this Tea,” an ode to Mississippi.

The show will be a celebratory night of laughter and music with surprise and special guests – comedian Whodi (Comedy Crack Up), comedian Alton Walker (R&B Workout Challenge), and DJ Mr. Adams (Core DJs) to name a few.

Brent grew up and attended school in Jackson, graduating from Murrah High and Jackson State University where she pledged Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Brent only lived outside the state of Mississippi for three months while at Basic Combat Training with the Army National Guard.

Before diving into standup comedy, she served nine years in the 41st Army National Guard Band (percussionist) and worked as a radio host and producer at Mississippi Public Broadcasting where she had a loyal following on several shows she produced such as, In Legal Terms and Everyday Tech.

Her decision to become a



comedian happened one night while attending a comedy open mic event in 2013. She says, “God told me to do comedy. He sounded just like Barry White!” She performed her first standup set March 25, 2013 and never looked back.

In the summer of 2017, Brent felt an urge to resign from her day job and become a full-time

comedian. “It’s odd to some, because I absolutely loved my job and coworkers at MPB, but I knew it was time to do away with complacency and pursue my comedy dreams.” Since taking that leap of faith, Brent has appeared on Jackson Airport commercials, the City with Soul docuseries, Patty Peck Honda commer-

cials, TruTV, Comedy Central (Hart of the City), and numerous stages across the country as an opening act for mainstream acts such as Rickey Smiley, Cedric the Entertainer, Lavell Crawford, Bill Bellamy, Sheryl Underwood and the late great Dick Gregory. Just recently, she was featured as a headliner at the Apollo Comedy Club

in New York City, and represented Mississippi as a cultural exchange ambassador in Africa with the American Music Abroad Program.

Brent proclaims the support she receives from the Jackson community and surrounding areas is priceless and vital to her elevation. “It’s a great thing to believe in yourself; it’s a beau-


tiful thing when ‘the people’ believe in you too.” That support took shape in the form of trophies this summer as Brent won, “Comedian of the Year” and “Entertainer of the Year” by the Jackson Music Awards Association for two consecutive years.

She announced her decision to move to New York after hosting the “We are One Jackson Music Fest” at the Mississippi Coliseum, the biggest venue she has played since living in Jackson. “Since then, the response has been heartwarming. Many people are sad that I am leaving home but understand why I need to. Mississippi is magnificent in its own right, but New York offers a different level of opportunities.”

Despite some of the world’s negative narratives surrounding Jackson and the state of Mississippi, Brent takes pride in claiming Jackson as her first and last home, while aiming to be an ambassador who shifts those narratives to ones that are more positive.


Advance tickets to Brent’s farewell show, “Sipp on this Tea,” September 28 at The Alamo Theater in Jackson are on sale at [eventbrite.com](https://www.eventbrite.com).

For more information, e-mail ritabrentcomedy@gmail.com or follow Brent on social media (@ritabrentcomedy) for important updates.




Changing the Future

Heart health starts here.



Meet Vicki D. Sutton, Ph.D., “head coach” at the Jackson Heart Study Community Engagement Center, where evidence-based programs and promoting health policies are a team effort. By mobilizing forces to reach people on every front, the CEC can help prevent and control chronic diseases and score winning outcomes in the African-American community.

MOBILIZING COMMUNITIES, MAYORS, CONGREGATIONS, BARBER SHOPS AND MORE!



changingthefuture.today
661.356.1120

©2019 Jackson Heart Study. All rights reserved. Jackson Heart Study is a registered trademark of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Jackson Heart Study is a registered trademark of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute. Jackson Heart Study is a registered trademark of the National Heart, Lung, and Blood Institute.

ourMississippi

MISSISSIPPI'S MOST INFLUENTIAL AFRICAN AMERICANS AWARDS GALA & RECEPTION

Get your tickets today for this spectacular event before they sell out!

6 P.M. Friday, August 23, 2019
Jackson Hilton on County Line Road

Join us as we celebrate 25 of Mississippi's Most Influential African Americans.

Fred Banks	Ronnie Crudup	Kenneth Mayfield
David Beckley	Nettie Davis	Mitzi Dease Paige
Rodney Bennett	Janel Edwards	Carlton Reeves
Michael Booker	Moses Feagin	Dorothy Shaw
Betina Brandon	George Flaggs	LeRoy Walker
Bernard Bridges	Juanita Gambrell Floyd	Primus Wheeler
William Bynum	Chris Gillard	Dorothy Wilson
Jasmin Chapman	Hozay Hausley	
Wilbur Colon	Carla Lewis	

These individuals were selected by an independent panel of business and community leaders, from across the state, from dozens of nominations received from the public

The event will also do a tribute to six outstanding Mississippians whom we're honoring as Legacies. These individuals are: John Perkins, Fonzie Brown Wright, W.C. Gordon, Alyce Clarke, Don Cole, John James



RESERVED TABLE OF 10: \$1,000
RESERVED TICKET: \$100 each

Tickets can be ordered online at www.ourmissmag.com or by calling Wesley Wells (662)844-2602



Mistress of Ceremonies
WAPT's
Erin Pickens

Sponsorship opportunities are still available. Call (662) 844-2602 for more information.

CURRENT PARTNERS



JPS welcomes new principals for 2019-2020



Baker Elementary
Camesha Hatchett
Hatchett previously served as an assistant principal at Walton Elementary in JPS.



Barack Obama Elementary
John Johnson
Johnson previously served as an assistant principal at Marshall Elementary in JPS.



Johnson Elementary
Guyniesha Johnson
Johnson previously served as an assistant principal at Quitman County Elementary in the Quitman County School District.



Key Elementary
Elana Tate
Tate previously served as the interventionist/test coordinator at Lester Elementary in JPS.



Lake Elementary
Steven E. Douglas
Douglas previously served as an assistant principal at Blackburn Laboratory Middle School in JPS.



North Jackson Elementary
Jocelyn Smith
Smith previously served as an assistant principal at North Jackson Elementary in JPS.



Blackburn Middle
Dr. Marvin Grayer
Grayer previously served as a school-level administrator in the Rankin County School District.



Brinkley Middle
Jeffrey Mumford
Mumford previously served as the principal at Hazlehurst H.S. in the Hazlehurst School District.



Hardy Middle
Dr. Adrienne Lacey Griffin
Griffin previously served as an assistant director of Diverse Learners in the DeKalb County School District in Georgia.



Powell Middle
LaShunna McInnis
McInnis previously served as an assistant principal at Peoples Middle School in JPS.



Jim Hill High
Bobby Brown
Brown previously served as the executive director of Curriculum in JPS.



Lanier High
Dr. Valerie Bradley
Bradley previously served as the Director of School Support in the JPS Office of Federal Programs.

Mississippi Link Newswire

We are proud to announce that 14 new administrators will be joining Team JPS as school principals for the 2019-2020 school year. These new administrators were introduced to the community by JPS Superintendent Errick L. Greene at School Board meetings held this spring and summer. Many of them are homegrown instructional leaders, holding

previous administrative positions within the JPS system. Additionally, this diverse pool of professionals includes four experienced administrators from other school districts. “We are excited for the talents and the skills these educators bring to their roles,” said Greene. “We know that together we will make good on the promise to our children and families.”



Provine High
Dr. Shelita Brown
Brown previously served as an assistant principal at Murrah High School in JPS.



Capital City Alternative
Tanyatemeika Mason
Mason previously served as an assistant principal at Provine High School in JPS.

JPS working with MIRA to support immigrant families

Mississippi Link Newswire

Recent raids and arrests by federal immigration officials in Mississippi have heightened a sense of anxiety for families and students. Jackson Public Schools is committed to educating children regardless of religion, race, ethnicity, country of origin or a student’s immigration status. We are working closely with the Mississippi Immigrants Rights Alliance (MIRA) and community partners to provide resources and supports to ensure all of our families and students



JACKSON PUBLIC SCHOOLS

feel safe in their school communities. We are dedicated to ensuring inclusive and welcoming schools. For information, assistance or counsel related to immigration, contact MIRA at 601 968-5182.

Buy JPS high school football tickets online



Mississippi Link Newswire

General admission tickets for local JPS high school football games are available for purchase through the GoFan Tickets app available in all app stores, or by visiting Jackson Public Schools’ GoFan site. The purchasing process for digital tickets is: Download the app or visit our GoFan site. Create a free account using your email address. Purchase your tickets with a

credit card. Have them redeemed by the ticket worker at the GoFan gate at all JPS high school home football games. A small convenience fee of \$1.10 is associated with the purchase of the tickets. General admission tickets will still be sold at the gate for all home games, but in an effort to help our fans and supporters avoid long lines, we now have this convenient option.

Subscribe TODAY

2659 Livingston Road • Jackson MS, 39213
601-896-0084 • www.mississippilink.com

The Mississippi Link

Name _____

Address _____

City, State, Zip _____

Phone _____

e-Mail _____

CHECK ONE

☐ 1 year

☐ 2 year

☐ 3 year

\$32

1 year subscription

\$64

2 year subscription

\$96

3 year subscription

Thank you for your order. Order a subscription for a friend!

The Mississippi Link™

Volume 25 • Number 43
August 15, 2019
© copyright 2018. All rights reserved.

Publisher.....Jackie Hampton

Editor.....Othor Cain




Copy Editor.....Minnie Garrett

Graphics.....Marcus Johnson

Photographers.....Kevin Robinson & Jay Johnson

Contributing Writers.....Janice K. Neal-Vincent
Ayesha K. Mustafa

Member:



The Mississippi Link [USPS 017224] is published weekly by The Mississippi Link, Inc. Offices located at 2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213. Mailing address is P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307 or e-mail us at: editor@mississippilink.com; Please visit our website at: www.mississippilink.com. Phone: (601) 896-0084, Fax 896-0091, out of state 1-800-748-9747. Periodical Postage Rate Paid at Jackson, MS.

Deadline: The deadline for submitting items to be considered for publication is Tuesday at 10 a.m.

Subscriptions are \$32 per year; \$64 for two years or \$96 for three years.

Postmaster: Send all address changes to The Mississippi Link, P.O. Box 11307, Jackson, MS 39283-1307.

Advertising: For all advertising information, please call (601) 896-0084.

The Mississippi Link accepts no responsibility for unsolicited materials and in general does not return them to sender. Manuscripts and photographs submitted for publication are welcome by The Mississippi Link, but no responsibility can be taken for sources considered to be authoritative, because the publication cannot guarantee their accuracy. Reproduction or use, without permission, of editorial or graphic content, is prohibited.

State Auditor finds alarming business practices at Hinds County School District

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Auditor Shad White recently announced his office uncovered alarming business practices at the Hinds County School District during a routine audit. Auditors found poor controls over the district credit cards and bank accounts which had not been reconciled in nearly a year. Additionally, spending records were destroyed before they were reviewed, and the district failed to adhere to some purchasing laws. Most concerning is a finding showing an assistant superintendent is responsible for more than \$50,000 in improper expenditures.

“The auditor’s office just restarted compliance audits of school districts for the first time in a few years, and already we have seen serious issues,” said White.

Audit findings include:

- The chief financial officer, an assistant superintendent, was not monitored appropriately and is responsible for nearly \$50,000 of improper expenditures. The assistant superintendent initiated a contract to provide a personal “car allowance” in addition to salary without board approval. This caused a \$33,000 loss to the district. Auditors also determined the assistant superintendent used district funds to make personal purchases like a monthly in-air internet subscription, a stay in a luxury hotel suite and other unapproved charges costing taxpayers nearly \$10,000.
- Due to poor accounting controls, over \$54,000 in adjustments were made during the audit to reconcile the district’s bank statements. Errors made

while inputting transactions were originally not discovered in part because bank reconciliations did not occur regularly.

- Not all credit card statements were reviewed by the district, and several purchases were made without required written justification. Credit limits on various cards were exceeded, and improper purchases were made.
- The district purchased iPads and Apple laptops worth nearly \$2 million without a competitive bidding process. Mississippi purchase laws require competitive bids for most large purchases to ensure taxpayers receive the best price for goods and services.

“This uncontrolled and unlawful administrative spending is not acceptable,” said White. “It shortchanges teachers and

students. It’s not fair for taxpayers. They all have a right to be angry about this kind of administrative spending. It results in money going outside the classroom and it violates our spending laws. I expect the district to take swift action to make sure this stops.”

Audit findings related to the assistant superintendent have been forwarded to the Auditor’s Investigations Division. The Mississippi Office of the State Auditor does not discuss any pending investigation and will have no further comment on the matter.

Public corruption can be reported to the Office of the State Auditor online any time by clicking the red button at www.osa.ms.gov or via telephone during normal business hours at 1-800 321-1275.

Hinds County School District official statement regarding State Auditor findings

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Hinds County School District (HCSD) has been working with the Mississippi Office of the State Auditor (OSA) over the last several weeks while auditors investigated the claims included in the report. In the meantime, the district has been working diligently to address the issues outlined in the state auditor’s report.

In addition to addressing each of the items included in the OSA report, we will be completing the following activities to ensure our district maintains strong financial health and integrity:

- Conducting a full review of current school district fiscal policies, practices and procedures
- Revising current school district fiscal policies, practices and procedures as needed
- Conducting financial training with all district and school staff responsible for fiscal activities.

We are proud to report that the district remains on strong financial footing and the guidance shared by the OSA will help us further strengthen our fiscal controls as we seek to maximize our investments in tools and technology that will help our students prepare for college and careers.

We will continue our efforts to safely and effectively invest and spend public funds to ensure that every student in HCSD has access to the resources they need to succeed.

Three CPSD faculty members join the Mississippi Teacher Council

The Mississippi Link Newswire

As Clinton High School teacher Heather McKinion prepares for the new school year, she’s taking on a state-level role.

“I’m very excited about having been selected to be a member of the Mississippi Teacher Council,” she said. “It’s a privilege to be an active voice in the educational decisions that affect our students and teachers in the state of Mississippi.”

McKinion, who teaches geometry and algebra 2 at CHS, joins fellow Clinton Public School District faculty members in serving on this board: Clay Norton, CHS algebra 2 teacher and Veressa Coyt, special education and inclusion teacher at Sumner Hill.

Each year, the Mississippi Department of Education selects teachers from across the state to serve on this council and provide feedback to Carey Wright, state superintendent of education. Formed in 2016, the Mississippi Teacher Council now includes 381 educators.

“This gives us, as educational leaders, an opportunity to help shape the future of education in Mississippi,” Norton said. “This is an important endeavor that we cannot take lightly.”

Council members will be asked to provide feedback on the initiatives of MDE, the Mississippi State Board of Education and the Mississippi State Legislature.

Wright meets with teachers quarterly in different regions of the state.

“When I found out I had been selected I was excited,” Coyt said. “This will allow me to be a voice for students with disabilities in the Clinton Public School District.”

The Mississippi Teacher Council aims to empower teachers to discuss topics critical to their success in the classroom and how MDE can help.

“The MTC will provide a venue for teachers to become advocates for their students and their profession through input into the decision-making process,” Wright said.



Norton



Coyt



McKinion

MVSU names Stromile Golden Provost/ Vice President for Academic Affairs

The Mississippi Link Newswire

President Jerryl Briggs has announced Kathie Stromile Golden as Mississippi Valley State University’s Provost and Senior Vice President for Academic Affairs (VPAA).

Briggs extended the offer to Golden earlier this week following an extensive national search. She will officially begin her new role Aug. 15.

“I’m looking forward to working with Dr. Golden as she serves in the capacity of provost and senior vice president for academic affairs,” said Briggs. “Dr. Golden brings with her a wealth of knowledge and experience, as well as a genuine love for MVSU. She is an asset to MVSU, and I am confident that she will be able to help us ensure the university’s continued success.”

As Provost/VPAA, Golden will serve as the institution’s chief academic officer, possessing broad responsibilities for articulating an academic vision, which includes providing high-level leadership to all academic areas and administering and enhancing educational programs reflective of the university’s mission.

As a member of the institution’s executive and extended cabinets, Golden will also play an integral role in the overall management of the institution and will advise Briggs on pertinent issues relating to the university, its governing board and various accrediting agencies.

Golden, who most recently served as the director of international programs and special assistant to the president’s office at MVSU, said she is looking forward to meeting the opportunities and challenges that accompany the position.

“My experiences working with MVSU colleagues, students, alumni and friends of the university for almost 20 years will inform my approach to performing the duties and responsibilities associated with the position,” said Golden. “I am excited about and confident in my ability to make positive contributions to



Golden

the university, and I am honored for having been selected for the position.”

Golden’s professional experience includes servings as MVSU’s associate vice president for academic from 2014 to 2017, during which time she oversaw the affirmation of three academic programs and helped to secure \$3.35 million in external funding.

As the director of MVSU’s international programs, Golden helped to develop MVSU’s international programs and increased the university’s international visibility through the solidification of partnerships in Nigeria, Kazakhstan and the Republic of Georgia with governmental agencies and educational institutions.

Golden served as the Iraq Public Health and Sanitation project coordinator for the Mississippi Consortium of International Development (2003-2005) and is the former director of the Delta Research and Cultural Institute (2001-2003).

Prior to that, she was the partnership coordinator and budget manager for the United Negro College Fund Special Programs Corporation from 1998 to 2001.

Golden served as the director of the Faculty Research Fund and as an associate professor of political science at Morris Brown College from 1996 to 1998. She was chair/assistant professor of political science and director of the international relations graduate program at Morgan State University from 1993 to 1996.

Golden is the executive director of the National Conference of Black Political Scientist and is the director of the National Conference of Black Political Scientists Graduate Assistantship Program (GAP).

She has more than 40 years of academic experience, has published numerous conference papers and scholarly articles and is the recipient of numerous national, state and international awards.

Golden received Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts degrees in political science from Southern University (Baton Rouge) in 1974 and 1975, respectively. She earned a Ph.D. in political science from the University of Kentucky in 1987.

By L.A. Warren
jsumsnews.com

By Rachel James-Terry
jsumsnews.com

"I'm the first to do this. It was emotionally draining but empowering as well," Holloway said. "One of the profound things that I learned from the Ghana trip is that our history has been diluted and told from a perspective that does not resemble me. We have endured the passage, slavery and all of that, but I found that we are resilient people, and if we don't define who we are, it's left up to someone else to define who we are."

Governor Bryant signs proclamation for Hurricane Camille 50th Anniversary Week

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Saturday, August 17, will mark the 50th anniversary of Hurricane Camille's landfall in Mississippi. To remember those who lost their lives and to remember the impact Camille had on the state, Governor Bryant has declared this week as 'Hurricane Camille 50th Anniversary Week.'

In the nighttime hours of August 17, 1969, Camille made landfall in Mississippi near Waveland. The Category 5 storm remains the second-strongest hurricane to ever make landfall in United States history, and its power was demonstrated as it made its trek across the state. The storm was responsible for 143 deaths in Mississippi and caused more than \$1 billion in damage. Nationwide, 256 lives were lost.

"Mississippians should be aware that while the state is better prepared than ever to respond to a hurricane, it is imperative to take an active role in improving their ability to prepare for, survive and recover from the impacts of

hurricanes by developing a family emergency plan, learning evacuation routes," Bryant said in his proclamation. "By promoting preparedness information about the dangers to the public's health and safety that hurricanes pose and helping with relief efforts when these powerful storms strike, we can reduce the loss of life and property and help our neighbors recover more quickly from their devastating effects."

Camille not only had a lasting effect on the lives of those who lived in Mississippi, but it also influenced how hurricanes are monitored and categorized.

The storm led to the creation of the Saffir-Simpson Hurricane Wind Scale. This scale rates storms from categories 1 to 5, with 74 mile per hour winds representing the lowest Category 1 storm, while any system with wind speeds greater than 157 mph is labeled a Category 5 storm. A re-analysis of Camille found wind speeds nearing 200 mph.

"Camille was a devastat-

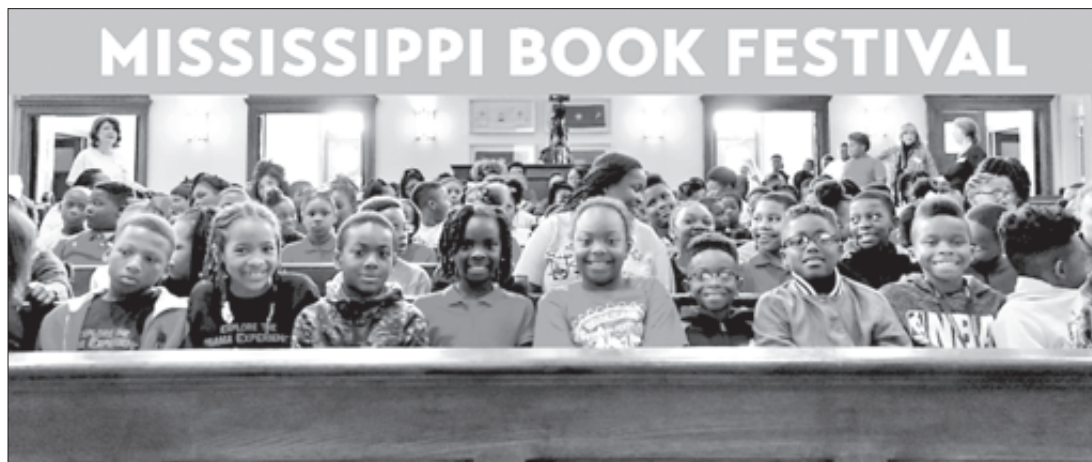
ing hurricane that affected the lives of thousands of people with nearly 300 lives lost," MEMA Executive Director Greg Michel said. "But, through tragedy comes wisdom. We learned a lot from that tragedy and how to better prepare for and survive the awesome power of mother nature."

To this day, there are also three unidentified storm victims. Saturday, MEMA and the Harrison County Emergency Operations Center will honor those victims with a flower ceremony at Evergreen Cemetery in Gulfport. The ceremony will begin at 8:30 a.m.

MEMA encourages all those living in the state to practice hurricane preparedness. You can download MEMA's 2019 Hurricane Preparedness Guide at <http://www.msema.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/05/2019-HurricaneGuide-Website.pdf>.

MEMA also encourages you to follow us on Twitter at @msema or 'Like' us on Facebook.

MS Book Festival triples student outreach this year



The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Book Festival balloons its outreach to students for 2019 with U.S. Supreme Court Justice Sonia Sotomayor and children's book author/illustrator Dav Pilkey set to engage thousands of students in downtown Jackson the day before the Aug. 17 event.

Sotomayor, the first Hispanic and first Latina Supreme Court justice, is also a bestselling author whose memoir *My Beloved World* and its adaptations for young readers have inspired people of all ages.

Pilkey, the award-winning and bestselling creator of the wildly popular *Dog Man* and *Captain Underpants* graphic novel series, launches his "Do Good" global tour in Jackson at the Mississippi Book Festival. Each student attending Pilkey's presentation Friday will receive a free copy of his newest book, *Dog Man: For Whom the Ball Rolls*, courtesy of the author and the festival.

Pilkey will be introduced by First Lady of Mississippi Deborah Bryant before his three appearances.

"I'm honored to be invited to appear at this year's Mississippi Book Festival. I'm so excited to

be a part of this community-wide celebration of books promoting the joy of reading. I'm very grateful for the people in Mississippi who are doing good everyday by getting books into the hands of readers and who make a positive impact in their communities," said Pilkey.

Almost 6,000 metro area schoolchildren, elementary to high school, will be bused to downtown Jackson for multiple sessions with Sotomayor at Gal-lowsay United Methodist Church and with Pilkey at Thalia Mara Hall (a book festival first) on the eve of the fest. The total student count more than triples the festival's reach to schoolkids in previous years. Each student will take home a free book from these authors as a keepsake.

"Young readers grow into lifelong book lovers. It's critical that we reach these bright young minds, ignite that spark and open the world to them," said Holly Lange, Mississippi Book Festival director.

This year's fifth anniversary book festival stretches earlier in the week and farther across the state, too, with community receptions and school visits with authors in the Mississippi Delta

and on the Gulf Coast.

Young adult and children's authors Kathi Appelt, Sarah Frances Hardy and Shalanda Stanley will make stops at an Aug. 15 reception at the Cotton House Hotel in Cleveland and at Delta schools Aug. 16, leading up to the festival.

Young adult sensation Angie Thomas will mingle with fans and sign books at Pass Christian Books Aug. 15, and visit coast schools Aug. 16 before making her way to Jackson.

On Aug. 17, all will join a sparkling lineup of more than 150 national, regional and state authors – Richard Ford, Joyce Carol Oates and Ann Patchett among them – in conversations, on panels and more at the Mississippi Book Festival, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. at the State Capitol and surrounding venues.

The free, family-friendly festival, celebrated as the South's literary lawn party, amps up its kids' appeal for 2019, too, with costumed character Daniel Tiger as well as *Dog Man* and *Captain Underpants* on hand, fun activities, family storytelling and a swath of children's book authors.

Find details and a full schedule at msbookfestival.com.

Gulf Coast businesses may be eligible for SBA Economic Injury Declaration loans

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Due to the Harmful Algal Bloom on the Mississippi Gulf Coast and the additional water contact warnings issued by the Mississippi Department of Environmental Quality, Governor Phil Bryant may request an Economic Injury Declaration from the Small Business Administration.

According to the SBA, an Economic Injury Declaration means a business is "unable to meet its obligations and to pay its ordinary and necessary operating expenses. EID loans

provide the necessary working capital to help small businesses survive until normal operations resume after a disaster."

In order for the governor to request an EID, at least five businesses in each of the primary counties have to show they have suffered a substantial economic injury. Additionally, the degree of economic injury must be so severe that financial assistance at reasonable rates and terms is not otherwise available, creating the necessity for federal involvement in the form of subsidized

loans.

If you are a business owner and want to be included in this possible declaration, the proper contact information for your county is listed below.

Hancock County: Maureen Anderson, 228 467-0172

Harrison County: Michelle Watts, 228 865-4002

Jackson County: Sonya Carter, 228 938-2850

More information about the Mississippi Beach Monitoring Program is available at: <http://opcgis.deq.state.ms.us/beaches>.

Vicksburg's water treatment plant named best in Mississippi

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The City of Vicksburg has received the 2019 Water Treatment Plant of the Year Award from the American Water Works Association. Overall water quality, plant improvements, energy efficiency and regulatory conformance were cited as criteria for the selection.

"Vicksburg residents are benefiting from this administration's decision to contract out our water treatment operations," said Mayor George Flaggs Jr. "This recognition speaks volumes for the direction we're headed in the City of Vicksburg."

The Board of Mayor and Al-

dermen hired ESG Operations, Inc. in 2016 to manage and operate the city's water treatment plant on Haining Road.

The plant has received a five-star rating from the state Department of Health for the past three years and has been in 100% compliance with all regulatory agencies.

MOORE & MOORE Cleaning Service

MAID SERVICES
AVAILABLE

Craig Moore
Owner/Operator

*All Types of Cleaning Services
Over 30 Years of Experience
Free Estimates
Licensed & Bonded*

Moore & Moore Cleaning Services
Commercial & Residential Cleaning
*We clean: Office Buildings, Schools, Daycares
Churches, Restaurants - whatever you need.*

*Floor Stripping & Waxing, Carpet Cleaning,
Restrooms & All Other Janitorial Services
with Professional Results*

601.519.0030 or 601.317.2735
Email: craig.moore78@yahoo.com
www.mooreandmoorecleaningserviceandautosalesllc
2659 Livingston Road, Jackson, MS 39213

*The person that sends us the most referrals will
receive a \$200.00 referral fee.*

Coalition pressuring Twitter to shut down White Supremacist accounts

By Barrington M. Salmon
TriceEdneyWire.com

A coalition of racial justice and civil rights organizations, based in Charlottesville, Va., has launched a campaign to force Twitter to respond to widespread concerns that Twitter allows white supremacists to flourish on its platform.

The Change the Terms Coalition was deliberate in timing the launch on the eve of the second anniversary of the Unite the Right rally in Charlottesville that led to the murder of activist Heather Heyer August 12, 2017. The 32-year-old paralegal civil rights activist, was struck and killed by 22-year-old James Fields, a Neo-Nazi white supremacist who drove a car into a crowd of counter-protesters. Fields is serving a life sentence plus 419 years for the murder.

The announcement also comes on the heels of two mass shootings that killed at least 31 people in El Paso, Texas and Dayton, Ohio August 3 and 4 respectively. The massacres have exacerbated the group's concerns about racially motivated attacks fueled by inflammatory online hate. They say President Donald Trump is fueling the violence and called for an uprising against it.

"Donald Trump has legitimized violence and it's time for people to stand up," said Jessica J. González, co-founder of Change the Terms and vice president of Strategy and Senior Counsel at Free Press.

The coalition, which held a press conference by phone August 7, is demanding that Twitter ban white supremacists and adopt model corporate policies.

"White supremacists fundraise, recruit and normalize the murder of marginalized people," said González. "We've been working with Big Tech to accept our demands. But Twitter is slow to change. It's the only platform that has failed to commit to banning white supremacists. David Duke, a former grand wizard of the KKK, is one there as is Richard Spencer and key organizers."

Spencer is a widely known neo-Nazi and president of the National Policy Institute, a White Supremacist Think Tank. Spencer was the leader of the torch-lit march in Charlottesville the evening before the death of Heather Heyer.

The Change the Terms Coalition includes more than 55 human-rights, civil-rights and digital-rights groups. They include Free Press, the Southern Poverty Law Center, the Center for American Progress, Color of Change, Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law, MediaJustice, Muslim Advocates and the National Hispanic Media Coalition.

It has called on Twitter and other online companies to develop more comprehensive policies to disrupt hate and racism on their platforms and has also urged these platforms to adopt the model corporate policies that Change the Terms has developed.

"When Twitter gives well-known white supremacists a platform, even after they have been deemed too extreme by Facebook and YouTube, their company becomes complicit in normalizing racism and the hateful acts inspired by it," said González, vice president of strategy and senior counsel at Free Press and co-founder of Change the Terms. "Twitter must tell white supremacists they cannot rely on the platform to espouse harmful rhetoric, intimidate and plan more attacks."

Brandi Collins-Dexter, senior campaign director of Color of Change, agreed.

"From Charlottesville two years ago to El Paso this week, we've seen the tragic outcomes of white nationalism spreading on Twitter, made even more dangerous every time Trump is allowed to tweet his bigoted rhetoric," she said. "White nationalists use Twitter every day to harass black people and users from marginalized commu-



American flag at half staff over the White House last week in mourning for at least 31 massacre victims. As President Trump said he condemned White supremacy and racism, observers say he fuels it. PHOTO: THE WHITE HOUSE

nities, to build power and organizational strength, and to amplify violent ideologies in this country. It's time for Jack Dorsey and Twitter's leadership to get over their fear of conservative backlash and fully stamp out discrimination on the platform. Our civil rights should not be negotiable."

Avis Jones-DeWeever, president of the diversity consultant firm, Incite Unlimited, cites statistics which illustrate the danger white extremism poses:

According to the most recent FBI data, the number of hate crimes in America has increased three years in a row, jumping about 17 percent in one year alone.

The number of white supremacist groups in America has soared 30 percent in the last four years.

White supremacists account for nearly three out of four murderous terrorist acts in the U.S.

Counties that hosted a Trump rally during his run for president in 2016 have subsequently experienced a 226 percent jump in hate crimes.

"It doesn't take a rocket scientist to see the correlation between the political rise of Trump (his campaign run in the primaries, the general election and his time in office), his specific policy negligence around white terrorism, the white supremacist language he infuses in his rhetoric on a daily basis, and the rise in white nationalist violence that has ensued," Jones-DeWeever said. "When we refuse to speak this truth, we fuel white terrorism. We not only allow it to exist, we also allow it to thrive."

González, who moderated the August 7 conference call, said Twitter is a space that allows key white nationalist influencers to operate. Reportedly, there are at least 100,000 verified accounts of racists and white extremists who are sophisticated and organized.

"There are 173,000 tweets, 4,000 per white supremacist account and twitter has not removed them," González said. "Twitter talks a good game while vile, racist extremists continue to spew hate. Latinos have been targeted because of Donald Trump. People are scared to go to school, grocery store, other places because of the color of our skins."

González said Latino communities including where she lives have been profoundly affected by the shooting in El Paso. Patrick Crusius, a 21-year-old white man drove more than six hours from Dallas to El Paso "to kill Mexicans."

González said fear has increased exponentially among her friends, family and neighbors and in Latino communities since the killer, who admitted that he is an anti-immigrant white nationalist and Trump supporter, opened fire in a Walmart, killing 22 people and wounding dozens of others.

The coalition notes that a range of Unite the Right organizers and associated white-nationalist influencers continue to benefit from their presence on Twitter. This includes key rally organizers like Richard Spencer, Evan McLaren and Tony Hovater; so-called alt-right podcasters and YouTubers who broadcast live from the rally like Faith Goldy and Mike Peinovich; and

figureheads of hate like former KKK Grand Wizard David Duke, who attended and broadcast from the deadly rally, and continue to enjoy unfettered use of their Twitter accounts.

Twitter, for its part, released a statement last week saying that it is researching whether white supremacists should be banned or allowed to continue operating on its platform. Vijaya Gadde, Twitter's head of trust and safety, legal and public policy said in published reports that the research aims to understand the effectiveness of both removing such individuals, as well as allowing them to remain online to be debated by others.

Gadde said in an interview with Motherboard that Twitter is working with academics to see if it can be confirmed that "counter-speech and conversation are a force for good" and "can act as a basis for de-radicalization," which is Twitter's current position. She also added that Twitter has seen evidence on other platforms that radical viewpoints can change through an exchange of ideas.

"We're working with them specifically on white nationalism and white supremacy and radicalization online and understanding the drivers of those things," Gadde said in the Motherboard interview. "What role can a platform like Twitter play in either making that worse or making that better?"

A Twitter spokesman wrote The Daily Dot saying: "We've made great strides in creating stronger policies against hateful conduct, violent extremist groups and violent threats on Twitter. We will always have more to do, and collaboration with outside researchers is critical to helping us effectively address issues like radicalization in all its forms."

But the coalition contends Twitter's response is nowhere near close enough.

"Twitter has some responsibility for that. Black and brown communities here and globally are under attack," said Don Gathers, co-founder of the Charlottesville chapter of Black Lives Matter. "The person who shall not be named has enabled others. It all spews from the same ideology. He has to stand up and speak forcefully. If he's not willing to do so, we must. As a social platform, Twitter has not taken responsibility. What they're allowing is not all speech is free, much of it is hate. Intimidation and bullying can't be allowed. They cannot be allowed to use the cloak and cover of anonymity. We're calling on Twitter to denounce that ... We just have to say enough."

Gathers, former chair of Charlottesville's Blue Ribbon Commission on Race, Memorials and Public Spaces, said Charlottesville is still reeling from march and rally fallout.

"The deadly Unite the Right rally was planned on social media, and our community is still feeling the profound impact of that violence today," he said. "We're still reeling from [that] fateful day and fateful actions. Whole communities are still living in fear. It's time these companies used their terms of service to keep white supremacists off Twitter and reduce the hate that leads to tragedy."

A national crisis: Surging hate crimes and white supremacists



CREDIT: SOUTHERN POVERTY LAW CENTER

By Charlene Crowell
NNPA News Wire Columnist



A Saturday morning shooting rampage in El Paso, Texas August 3 took the lives of 22 people, and seriously injured more than two dozen others. Reportedly, the alleged shooter wanted to kill as many Mexicans as he could. Armed with safety glasses, ear coverings and an assault-style rifle, the shooter entered a Walmart store during a back-to-school sale.

"Saturday's attack on El Paso was an attack on the Mexican heritage of millions of Americans – and also part of a history of white supremacist and nativist acts in Texas across three centuries," wrote Hector Tobar, in a recent *New York Times* op-ed. Tobar, an associate professor at the University of California at Irvine is also a published author.

Later that day during evening hours and nearly 1,600 miles away in Dayton, Ohio, another gunman's attack left 9 people dead and 27 injured in that city's Oregon district. Like the Texas shooter, Ohio's shooter was heavily armed but was shot by police before he could enter a nightclub where he could have killed far more. The victims of this shooting reflected the city's diversity and included blacks, latinos and whites.

Despite the shock of two unprovoked attacks, family and community members in both cities must somehow cope through their grief while preparing funeral arrangements. These two communities are also challenging governmental officials at both the state and federal levels to take actions to prevent further fatalities.

Nationally, a profusion of prayers and condolences from the nation together signaled that a tragic moment may yet be transformed into a groundswell movement that reckons with the American conscience. The profusion of assault weapons combined with easy access is a gripping issue that confronts us all.

In response to these and other tragedies, a diverse coalition of leaders held a noon rally August 6 in the nation's capital. In a joint statement, the Leadership Conference for Civil and Human Rights was joined by key partners including but not limited to the NAACP Legal Defense Fund, Voto Latino, the Center for Community Self-Help and the Center for Responsible Lending.

"None of this is acceptable," said the leaders in a written statement. "None of this is normal. Our organizations are united in saying that members of Congress can no longer look away as communities of color are murdered with impunity. We must all unite and demand accountability."

The NAACP and the National Urban League additionally called for the passage of the bipartisan Background Checks Act of 2019. Passed on a bipartisan House vote of 240-190 February 27, the bill has yet to be taken up by the Senate. It would address both background check requirements for firearms and firearm transfers between private individuals.

Beyond congressional actions, however, other spheres of influence can also take an active role in curbing violence. For example, corporate leaders could publicly condemn efforts to demonize im-

migrants, people of color or other groups targeted for hate crimes and violence. In pulpits across the country, pastors should preach about the moral dilemma the nation faces and call upon congregants to live their faith every day. Community-based organizations can call upon state and local officials to also speak out against senseless acts of violence and white supremacists.

Now is also a time to remember that regardless of race or ethnicity, our history chronicles the range of hate crimes that have taken the lives of Latinos as well as Native Americans, blacks, Jews, and the LGBTQ community. The terror now facing America's Latinos resurrects these horrors, particularly how blacks encountered racial hatred for more than a century during Jim Crow era and later during the civil rights struggles of the 1950s and 1960s.

Too many times in recent years, we remain at risk as a people. In 1998 the body of James Byrd, a black, 49-year old Jasper, Texas man was ripped to pieces as he was drug over a mile and a half by whites driving a pick-up truck. Other and more recent heinous hate crimes remind us of Trayvon Martin, Michael Brown, Eric Garner and Tamir Rice – just to name a few.

According to Rutgers University, black men today are 2.5 times more likely than white men to be victims of violence. From 2013 to 2017, 11,456 fatal encounters with police and members of the public were reported.

At the same time, the emergence of hate groups has been on the rise, according to the Southern Poverty Law Center (SPLC).

"The total number of hate groups rose to 1,020 in 2018, up about 7 percent from 2017," wrote Heidi Beirich, who leads SPLC's Intelligence Project and its award-winning publication, *The Intelligence Report*.

Its report released this February found that white nationalist groups grew from 100 in 2017 to 148 the following year, 2018 – a 50% growth. Other hate groups – anti-Semitic, anti-LGBTQ, and anti-Muslim – also grew during these same years from 233 to 264. While the Ku Klux Klan dominated hate groups in the Jim Crow and civil rights eras, its presence across the country now appears to have been eclipsed by the growth of neo-Nazis, white nationalists and skin head organizations.

SPLC's Hate Map by State shows that the largest number of statewide hate groups are located in California (83), Florida (75), and Texas (73). At the local level, additional hate organizations currently operate in Dallas, Los Angeles, San Diego, and Tallahassee. Beyond these three states, hate groups can also be found in 45 other states and in more metropolitan areas such as Atlanta, Chicago, New York City, Sacramento, Philadelphia and Pittsburgh.

Just as the assassination of Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. prompted the enactment of major civil rights legislation, now is another time for our nation to stand up to the many forms of domestic terrorism that plague the nation. People of conscience and principle have a duty to stand up, speak out for the fullness of our "inalienable rights."

Charlene Crowell is the Center for Responsible Lending's deputy communications director. She can be reached at Charlene.crowell@responsiblelending.org.

We must follow the Word of God

By Pastor Simeon R. Green III
Special to The Mississippi Link



Love does not work any ill to his neighbor. God's Word tells us just how to deal with things. If you brother sins against you, you are to go to him. You are in the narrow way, so go to him and him alone and tell him. Then, if he does not hear you, you are to get two or three witnesses. The reason he said to get two or three was not so you would have more people to condemn the person. Maybe someone else would have more favor with him than you have with him. The two or three witnesses are there to help. Your objective is to bring him back to God, not to down him. The Bible states in Galatians 6:1, "Brethren, if a man be overtaken in a fault, ye which

are spiritual, restore such an one in the spirit of meekness; considering thyself, lest thou also be tempted." We must follow the Word of God, not the flesh. There is no room in the Word of God for hating anyone. There is not even room in the Word of God for folks falling out with each other because one does not believe as the other one. We should seek to help the other person. My heart's desire is to see God's people be together. God raised us up together and made us sit together in heavenly places in Christ Jesus. If we ever get to Heaven, we must be together. Paul said in Romans 10:1-3 these words: "Brethren, my heart's desire and prayer to God for Israel is that they might be saved. For I bear them record that they have a zeal of God, but not according to knowledge. For they being ignorant

of God's righteousness, and going about to establish their own righteousness, have not submitted themselves unto the righteousness of God." Christ is the righteousness of God. Without Christ, we can do nothing because all power in Heaven and earth is in His hands. I thank God for the saints of God. I like the song that says, "I am one of them today." No other people on earth are like the saints of God. We are a peculiar people. We do not act as people of the world. We do not lie and cheat one another. Saints, when God worked a work in us, He did something marvelous for us. Salvation will work just as the Bible says. Second Corinthians 5:17 tells us, "Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." God has His people as ambassadors of

Christ to show a lost and dying world the right way. In Matthew 5:13 Jesus told His disciples, "Ye are the salt of the earth: but if the salt have lost his savor, wherewith shall it be salted? It is thenceforth good for nothing, but to be cast out, and to be trodden under foot of men." If we get to the place where we cannot be a blessing, we are like the salt that has lost its savor, or saltiness. What good is salt if it is no longer salty? If salt is not salty, we may still have the salt shaker, and we can shake it all we want, but it is not salty anymore. That is the way it is if we have lost our Christian experience. Rev. Simeon R. Green III is pastor of Joynes Road Church of God, 31 Joynes Road, Hampton VA 23669. He is a member of the National Association of Evangelism Church of God, Anderson, Ind.

PRESERVED Living above see level

By Shewanda Riley
Columnist




A few years ago, I had one of my most challenging experiences with my natural vision. What started out as a normal day for me ended with me having a splitting headache and blurred vision. It started when I thought I might have had my contact lenses in the wrong eyes so I switched them. But my vision seemed to get worse so I switched them back. Also, I did all that I could over the next three days to clean them...but there didn't seem to be a strong enough solution to remove what looked like a cloudy layer on the lenses. I reluctantly made an appointment with the eye doctor dreading having to buy another pair of contact lenses. I prayed for God to supernaturally heal my eyes on the way to the doctor's office but God obviously had a more important lesson for me.

said and marveled at the quick improvement to my eyesight. It was still a little fuzzy, but my headache was gone. I thought to myself, how interesting that even though it was the weakest, my left eye was over compensating for the temporary weakness of the stronger right eye. I also thought how that fight between my eyes to give me clear vision was similar to our battles with faith. We don't have enough faith that God will do something and we over compensate by taking matters into our own hands. We think we are doing the right thing, but in the end we cause an imbalance of faith. We say we have limitless faith...but our actions show that we actually have limited faith. Sometimes we also make the mistake of putting our faith in the wrong people or things. 2 Corinthians 4:18 says, "While we do not look at the things which are seen but at the things which are not seen. For the things which are seen are temporary but the things that are not seen are eternal."

The doctor was able to clean the lenses and remove most of what had clouded them. He stated that part of my physical discomfort was the fact that I was right eye dominant...and it was my right eye's contact lenses that was the most blurred. The weaker left eye was trying to overcompensate for the temporary weakness of the right one. He further explained that his great "top-secret" solution that cleansed my contact lens included baking soda. He carefully explained all that he did and recommended that I do the same thing to clean my contact lenses in the future. It is amazing how something as simple as baking soda seems to be the solution to everything. Later that day, I did what he

Faith, like that dirty contact lens, is what we see the world through. If our faith is blurred, cloudy, distorted or obscured, we make poor decisions because we have poor sight. Like that damaged lens, we have to admit that our faith was shaken and replace our faithless eyes with the faithful eyes of God. Shewanda Riley is a Fort Worth, Texas based author of "Love Hangover: Moving from Pain to Purpose After a Relationship Ends" and "Writing to the Beat of God's Heart: A Book of Prayers for Writers." Email preservedbypurpose@gmail.com or follow her on Twitter @shewanda.




Moving the Masses Toward the Mission of the Master

1600 Florence Avenue
Jackson, Mississippi 39204
601-355-2670 • 601-355-0788 (Fax)
www.collegehillchurch.org
Chmbo@collegehillchurch.org

COLLEGE HILL
MISSIONARY BAPTIST CHURCH

SUNDAY
Worship Services
10:00 a.m.
Sunday School 8:45 a.m.
MONDAY
Intercessory Prayer 9:00 a.m.
WEDNESDAY
Prayer Service 6:30 p.m.
Classes: Children • Youth • Adult - 7:00p.m.



Michael T. Williams
Pastor



New Horizon Church
INTERNATIONAL
A place of love and victory.

Bishop Ronnie C. Crudup, Sr.
1750 Ellis Avenue • Jackson, MS 39204
OFFICE: 601-371-1427 • FAX: 601-371-8282
www.nhcms.org

SUNDAY
8:00 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. - Worship Services

WEDNESDAY
7:00 p.m. - Bible Class

TV BROADCAST
8:00 a.m. - Channel 14 (Comcast)

Prayer Everyday: 6 a.m. and 6 p.m.

True Light Baptist Church

224 E. Bell Street | Jackson, MS 39202 | Phone: (601) 398-0915

Join Us!
for our Light Line Prayer Call
each Wednesday morning at
6:00 a.m. or join us on
Periscope @MarcusCheeks

The Light Line PRAYER



Rev. Marcus E. Cheeks, Pastor
Small Group Study | 9:00 a.m.
Worship Service | Sundays 10:30 a.m.
Bible Study | Wednesdays 6:00 p.m.

Phone Number: (218) 339-7800 | Access Code: 627 6205#
(712) 832-8330 (Alternate Number)
*The call will last only 30 minutes

New Bethel Missionary Baptist Church

Pastor, Dr. F. R. Lenoir



Sunday School - 9:15 a.m.
Sunday Morning Worship - 10:30 a.m.
Live Radio Broadcast
WOAD AM 1300 - 11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.



"A Church Preparing for a Home Not Built by Man"

New Bethel M. B. Church • 450 Culberston Ave. • Jackson, MS 39209
601-969-3481/969-3482 • Fax # 601-969-1957 • E-Mail: Serenitynbc@aol.com

Crossroads Church of God

Sharing The Love Of Christ With Others



Sunday Morning Fellowship: 9:30 a.m.
Sunday Sch: 10 a.m.

Sunday Worship Service: 11:15 a.m.
(Fellowship following worship service 1st Sundays)

Wednesday Prayer/Bible Study: 7 p.m.

Rev. Mark Jackson, Pastor
231-A John Day Road • Off Hwy 16 East • Canton, MS 39046
Church: 601-859-2858

Democrats’ political gifts to Number 45

By A. Peter Bailey
TriceEdneyWire.com



After watching and reading about the highlights of the Democratic Party “debates,” I am convinced that the Democrats, at least those on the debate stages, really don’t believe that Number 45 (aka Donald J. Trump) is a threat to vital interests of this country. If they truly believe what they consistently say and write, they wouldn’t have provided Number 45 and his Trumpettes with a basket full of political gifts to use against their eventual candidate for the presidency. Instead they came off, at least to me, as me, myself and I narcissists, striving for personal attention and future big-time positions in the corporate, academic or political arenas. There is also the possibility of book contracts or jobs as television commentators.

The belief of most of them seem to be that most voters in the country live in urban areas such as Washington, D.C., Manhattan, New York City, Los Angeles, San Francisco, Boston, Philadelphia etc. Number 45 knows better. He practically never campaigns in the large urban centers. Instead he focuses on the majority of the white population in the country who share his basic beliefs. Beliefs that white males have some kind of divine right to be the dominant force in national and international affairs, that the only immigrants who should be allowed to enter and become

citizens of the U.S. should be ones from places like Norway, that black folks should be grateful that they were rescued from “shithole” countries in Africa, that intelligent, strong-willed women are a pain in the you know what, that it would be blasphemous to put a photo of Harriet Tubman on the \$20 bill, and that Dr. Ben Carson is the ideal colored man. And on and on.

The 20 democrats on those debate stages and most of the American print and broadcast media, progressive and conservative, consistently romanticize the white American voting public as being basically firm proponents of justice and equality for all citizens of the U.S.

Again Number 45 knows better. He and those around him are well aware that throughout this country’s history, millions of middle income and working class whites have voted for their racial biases over their economic interests.

Most of the debaters know damn well that they have absolutely no chance of being elected president of the U.S. in 2020 or any other year. Yet instead of using their time, energy and resources to defeat a con man who they insist is a dire threat to all that they believe in, they will probably continue playing their me, myself and I games. History will judge them harshly.

Finally, a serious Democratic Party would choose Joe Biden as its candidate if he makes a public oath to serve only one term as a transition to the next generation.

The passing of Toni Morrison: A loss for the racial justice community as well as the literary world

By Marc H. Morial
President and CEO
National Urban League



“Oppressive language does more than represent violence; it is violence; does more than represent the limits of knowledge; it limits knowledge. Whether it is obscuring state language or the faux-language of mindless media; whether it is the proud but calcified language of the academy or the commodity driven language of science; whether it is the malignant language of law-without-ethics, or language designed for the estrangement of minorities, hiding its racist plunder in its literary cheek – it must be rejected, altered and exposed. It is the language that drinks blood, laps vulnerabilities, tucks its fascist boots under crinolines of respectability and patriotism as it moves relentlessly toward the bottom line and the bottomed-out mind.” – Toni Morrison, Nobel Lecture, 1993

A few years after being awarded the Nobel Prize for literature, for a body of work known for centering the Black American experience, Toni Morrison was asked by a white reporter when she would “incorporate white lives” into her books “in a substantial way.”

“You can’t understand how powerfully racist that question is, can you?” she asked. “You could never ask a white author, ‘When are you going to write about black people?’ Whether



Morrison

he did or not, or she did or not. Even the inquiry comes from a position of being in the center.”

Morrison likened herself to a Russian author, writing in Russian, about Russia. “The fact that it gets translated and read by other people is a benefit, it’s a plus. but he’s not obliged to ever consider writing about French people or Americans or anybody.”

Morrison’s death this week, at the age of 88, is a loss not only to the literary world, but to the cause of racial justice and civil rights. And it comes at a time when her unique voice is especially relevant.

Shortly after the election of Donald Trump in 2016, she published an essay entitled “Make America White Again,” in which she argued that white America’s loss of “the conviction of their natural superiority” had led to its debasement. The slaughter of unarmed men and

women of color at the hands of police and racially-motivated mass murder, the bombing of black churches – and white America’s apparent tolerance for all of it – she asserted, were part of the death knell of white superiority.

“If it weren’t so ignorant and pitiful, one could mourn this collapse of dignity in service to an evil cause,” she wrote. It is telling that what the interviewer noticed most about Morrison’s work was the absence of white characters; white privilege can be like air or light, notable only when it is absent. And according to Morrison, white voters were beginning to feel it ebb away.

“Toni Morrison” may have been as much a creation as her novels; she said she regretted using the nickname, derived from her chosen confirmation name, Anthony, and always thought of as Chloe, her given

name. She grew up in the integrated town of Lorain, Ohio, and was disillusioned by what she saw as rampant colorism when she arrived at Howard University in 1949. Unlike classmates who had grown up in the south, she experienced legal segregation for the first time in Washington, D.C., but could not believe it was real.

“I think it’s a theatrical thing,” she told the *New York Times*. “I always felt that everything else was the theater. They didn’t really mean that. How could they? It was too stupid.”

When Morrison won the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1993, it had been more than 30 years since an American-born author had won, but her status as the first black woman honored overshadowed her Americanness.

And while she had complained that her work was more likely to be taught in women’s studies or African-American Studies classes than in English classes, she hoped her work “fit first into African-American traditions and, second of all, this whole thing called literature.”

Today, even high-school students across the country are familiar with her work, reading her alongside Nathaniel Hawthorne and Mark Twain. She has staked out the African-American experience as part of the broader American experience.

As politicians seek to divide us and racial violence swirls around us, it is this lesson – that Black America is America, that we must keep firmly in our hearts.

A N Y T I M E
O N L I N E

Visit our newly designed website:
www.mississippilink.com

Who cares about fair elections?

By Julianne Malveaux
NNPA News Wire Columnist



The US House of Representatives passed the Securing America’s Fair Elections (SAFE) Act in June by a nearly totally partisan vote of 225-184 in late June. Only one Republican voted for legislation that would mandate paper ballots, increase election security and create safeguards to prevent foreign interference in our elections. Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) opposes the legislation and won’t even allow it to be introduced or voted on in the Senate.

House Speaker Nancy Pelosi (D-CA) was eloquently angry when she raised a series of questions, “I just would really like to know from my Republican friends, what’s wrong with replacing outdated, vulnerable voting equipment? What is wrong with requiring paper ballot voting systems to ensure the integrity of our elections? What is wrong with enacting strong cybersecurity requirements for elections technology vendors and voting systems? We must be relentless in the defense of our democracy, fighting on all fronts to keep America safe.”

Republicans don’t seem to

want to defend democracy, though. They simply want to win. And McConnell, who behaves like the 45th President’s handmaiden, has abandoned his duty as Senate leader in favor of partisan shenanigans.

When former special counsel Robert Mueller III testified that Russian election interference was happening even as he testified, too many Republicans chose to ignore his warning because it does not serve them. McConnell is among those who seem to hope that Russian interference aids Republicans and perhaps ensures the reelection of the most odious human being ever to occupy the Oval Office.

Meanwhile, people are organizing and attempting to overcome interference by mobilizing the Democratic base of voters. Barbara Arnwine, who founded and leads the Transformative Justice Coalition (www.tjcoalition.org) gathered dozens of activists to participate in a day-long strategy session on voting rights August 7, fifty-four years after the Voting Rights Act was passed in 1965.

Arnwine’s organization is among the many planning to ensure both voter turnout and election fairness in the upcoming elections. With so many focused on the 2020 election, and appropriately so, it is essential

to note that 2019 elections are also significant. Kentucky, Louisiana, and Mississippi will elect governors, New Jersey, and Virginia are among those who will elect state legislators, and some cities will elect mayors.

Activists can use these elections to test our broken system, and as practice, perhaps for 2020. But activists must also be clear that Republicans don’t seem to want fair elections. If they did, McConnell would schedule a vote on the SAFE Act, which provides dollars for better, safer voting technology.

Both houses of Congress are on recess this August month, and won’t reconvene until after Labor Day. Most members of Congress will say that they aren’t taking a six-week vacation because they are also working in their districts. Citizens need to meet with them, organize town hall meetings, and get input from those recalcitrant Republicans (all of the Democrats voted for the SAFE Act) on why they eschew fair elections.

Some of them use a “state’s right” argument, suggesting that states can manage their own elections on their own terms. African Americans understand states’ rights all too well. States’ rights made it necessary for our nation to pass a

Voting Rights Act, despite the guarantees included in the 13th, 14th and 15th Amendments. The question to ask is the questions Pelosi asked when the legislation came up for a vote June 27. What’s wrong with election fairness?

It is indisputable that Russia interfered in the 2016 elections to aid the 45th President. It is undeniable that millions of voters have been purged from the polls since 2016 with Secretaries of State eager to influence elections, as they did in both Georgia and Florida in 2018. It is indisputable that while Florida voters attempted to restore votes to former felons, the legislature undermined that vote by requiring people to pay all fines and fees before they are allowed to vote.

If the Congressional vote on the SAFE Act is any indication, Republicans don’t want election fairness. They want to win by whatever means necessary. We’ve invaded foreign countries to “ensure democracy,” but our Congress does not have the decency to ensure democracy at home.

Since the government won’t do its work, civil society organizations will have to.

Kudos to Barbara Arnwine and the Transformative Justice Coalition for their work on voter fairness.

Miss Mississippi pairs organ donation platform with UMMC transplant program visit

The Mississippi Link Newswire

Miss Mississippi Mary Margaret Hyer has a message for her state, one that could impact anyone needing an organ transplant.

“Thirty-three percent of people here are registered as organ donors, but only about 1 in 1,000 die in a way that they can have their organs recovered,” Hyer said. “Only a small number will go on to be donors. That makes me more passionate about getting people registered.”

That little-known fact, gleaned from conversations with staff at the Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency, and her personal experiences give Hyer the determination to carry out her pageant platform of organ and tissue donation.

Crowned June 22, the Hattiesburg resident and 2018 University of Mississippi graduate will spend the next year advocating for donation and educating those she meets on how to give the gift of life.

On Thursday, she toured the University of Mississippi Medical Center’s transplant services, meeting with surgeons, nurses, transplant coordinators and other members of the health care teams who treat patients undergoing heart, liver, kidney and pancreas transplants. UMMC has the state’s sole transplant program, along with the only bone marrow transplant unit.

Hyer talked transplant numbers with Dr. Christopher Anderson, professor and chair of the Department of Surgery. Anderson leads the department’s Division of Transplant and Hepatobiliary Surgery.

“As a group, we did 200 organ transplants last year,” Anderson said. “That puts us as a pretty busy center.

“I’m glad you’re waving the flag,” he told her.

Hyer spent time with a number of patients who are on a waiting list for a transplant, telling her story and listening to theirs. In 2010, Hyer said, her grandmother went to a routine doctor’s appointment and was surprised to find out she was in kidney failure.

“We were lucky that before she got to the point of having dialysis, my mom came back as a perfect match,” Hyer



Miss Mississippi Mary Margaret Hyer shares her love of Ole Miss sports with Dan Dyess. The Columbia resident is on a waiting list for a liver transplant.



Hyer chats with Ashley Kaplar of Belmont. Kaplar is on a kidney and pancreas waiting list.



Hyer discusses her organ and tissue donation platform with Dr. Chris Anderson, professor and chair of the Department of Surgery and an abdominal transplant surgeon.

said of the 2012 transplant between Margaret McCollum Hyer and her mother, Bobbie McCollum. Bobbie McCollum died of cancer in 2014,

but with a perfectly healthy kidney.

When she needed to choose a platform as she began competing in preliminary pag-

eants for the state title, “it was an easy decision,” Hyer said. “There was nothing in my life that had affected me like the transplant did, and there are

so many people who weren’t as lucky as we are.”

Her platform is entitled “Advocate, Celebrate, Donate: Decreasing the Donor Organ Deficiency.”

Dan Dyess of Columbia said he’s had a blessed life – and realized just how blessed it had been when he found out he needed a liver transplant.

“I’ve been an organ donor since I was a teenage kid,” he told Hyer. “I always had it on my mind. I never thought I would need an organ myself.”

Hyer chatted easily with Dyess, quickly zeroing in on one of his passions.

“I’m a diehard Rebel fan,” he told her.

“Well, Hotty Toddy!” she answered.

Also on a waitlist was 29-year-old Ashley Kaplar of Belmont. “Thank you for letting me stop by, and good luck!” Hyer told her.

“That was amazing” Kaplar, who needed a kidney and pancreas, said of meeting her first Miss Mississippi. “It helps a lot, just knowing that her mom helped her grandmother.”

During her year-long reign, Hyer will work toward her goal of 50 percent of Mississippians signing up as organ donors through MORA. She plans to promote her platform in communities she visits, sharing stories of those who received transplants and those generous enough to donate a loved one’s organs or tissues.

Between college graduation and her crowning, she worked as a consultant for her sorority, Phi Mu, and educated hundreds of young women on the shortage of available organs.

“I was a full-time traveler. Every five days, I was on an airplane going to visit college-aged women who are old enough to register to be a donor,” she said. “I got to take my platform nationwide and expand it from Mississippi.

“People aren’t opposed to becoming a donor,” said Hyer, who plans to attend law school next year. “They just don’t realize they aren’t one, or they haven’t thought about it. I’ve been very successful in increasing donor registration just by talking about it.”

West Nile Virus: Five human cases in Mississippi so far in 2019

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi State Department of Health (MSDH) reports two new human case of West Nile virus (WNV) for 2019, bringing the state total to five this year. The new cases were reported in Forrest and Lamar counties. Three previous cases were reported in Smith, Hinds and Copiah counties in July.

In 2018, Mississippi had 50 WNV cases and no deaths. The first case was reported in mid-July.

“While most Mississippians are aware of the existence of West Nile virus, it’s easy to forget how dangerous it can be. We need to remember that we have WNV cases in Mississippi every year, and that everyone needs to act now to reduce their risk of infection regardless of where they live in the state.

Most cases occur from July through September,” said MSDH State Epidemiologist Dr. Paul Byers. “While most infected people recover without any long-term problems, some develop a more severe infection that can lead to complications and even death – especially in those over 50 years of age.”

Symptoms of WNV infection are often mild and may include fever, headache, nausea, vomiting, a rash, muscle weakness or swollen lymph nodes. In a small number of cases, infection can result in encephalitis or meningitis, which can lead to paralysis, coma and possibly death.

The MSDH suggests the following precautions to protect yourself and your family from mosquito-borne illnesses:

Use a mosquito repellent with an EPA-registered ingredient such as DEET while you are outdoors.

Remove all sources of standing water around your home and yard to prevent mosquito breeding.

Wear loose, light-colored, long clothing to cover the arms and legs when outdoors.

Avoid areas where mosquitoes are prevalent.

For more information on mosquito-borne illnesses, visit the MSDH website at [HealthyMS.com/westnile](https://www.healthymississippi.com/westnile).

Follow MSDH by email and social media at [HealthyMS.com/connect](https://www.healthymississippi.com/connect).

Forrest General Hospital recognized by MORA for partnership

The Mississippi Link Newswire

The Mississippi Organ Recovery Agency (MORA) recognized Forrest General Hospital at the 6th Annual Spero Awards July 25 at the Hilton Jackson. The hospital was honoured as one of the hospital partners working with MORA to save lives and promote organ, eye and tissue donation.

“Forrest General Hospital’s staff always goes above and beyond to ensure that the families they serve are given the opportunity to make a decision in regards to donation. The awards presented to Forrest General Hospital are a true reflection of the dedication, the professionalism, and the heart of caring that is Forrest General Hospital and its staff. The commitment and partnership between Forrest General Hospital and MORA continues to grow stronger due to the desire to help the citizens and communities in the Hattiesburg area,” said Joel Stevens, Hospital Development Coordinator/Board Certified Procurement Transplant Coordinator



Left to right: Kevin Stump, chief executive officer, MORA; Gladys Wolff, MBAHA, Forrest General Hospital; Brad Pickering, CNP, Forrest General Hospital; and Brandon Brazzel, ICU Manager

(CPTC).

Forrest General received the following 2019 Spero Awards:

- Advanced Practice Nurse or Nurse Manager of the Year
- Brad Pickering, CNP, Forrest

General Hospital

- Physician Champion of the Year
- Dr. Edward Pellerano, Forrest Gen-

eral Hospital

- Hospital Leadership of the Year Award
- Gladys Wolff, MBAHA, Forrest General Hospital
- Most Supportive Organ & Tissue Hospital.

Adrian Murry, a local donor mom, was chosen again as Volunteer of the Year. MORA also recognized Forrest General for participation in the Hospitals for Hope campaign. Hospitals of Hope is an awareness campaign intended to increase registrations for organ, eye and tissue donation.

A total of 14 Spero Awards were presented to individuals and organizations from areas throughout the state as well as one Special Recognition Spero Award. The word “Spero” is Latin for “hope.” The title was chosen to reflect the hope that organ and tissue donation brings to those in need of a lifesaving organ or a life improving tissue transplant.

For more information about Forrest General, visit forrestgeneral.com.

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFP
RFP 2019-19 District Benchmark and Formative Assessment Services

Sealed, written formal Requests for Proposals (RFPs) for the above RFP will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) August 22, 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all RFPs, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any RFP if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date RFPs are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

8/8/2019, 8/15/2019

LEGAL

Advertisement for RFPs
RFP 2019-20 Jackson Public School District Seek a Lead Partner for Pre-Kindergarten Intervention Program

Sealed, written formal rfp proposals for the above rfp will be received by the Board of Trustees of the Jackson Public School District, in the Business Office, 662 South President Street, Jackson, Mississippi, until 10:00 A.M. (Local Prevailing Time) August 28, 2019, at which time and place they will be publicly opened and read aloud. The Board of Trustees reserves the right to reject any and all rfps, to waive informalities, and to withhold the acceptance of any rfp if approved for forty-five calendar days from the date rfps are opened.

Proposal forms and detailed specifications may be obtained free of charge by emailing jewalker@jackson.k12.ms.us, calling (601) 960-8799, or documents may be picked up at the above address or downloaded from JPS website at www.jackson.k12.ms.us.

8/15/2019, 8/22/2019

LEGAL

Notice of Sale
Abandoned Vehicle

Notice of Sale is hereby given in accordance with the Mississippi Statutes governing the sale of abandoned motor vehicles that the following vehicle will be sold for repair and storage charges and for cost of this sale.

2010 CHEV CAM VIN 2G1FB1EV8A9170489
Registered to Patricia A. Cox
Alley Financial, Lien Holder
Date of Sale: August 30, 2019
Place of Sale: Archie Towing Services;
6700 Medgar Evers Blvd., Jackson, MS 39213

Sellers reserve the right to bid on the above property and to reject any and all bids. Time: 10:00 A.M.

8/8/2019, 8/15/2019, 8/22/2019

LEGAL

DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE AND ADMINISTRATION
BUREAU OF BUILDING, GROUNDS AND
REAL PROPERTY MANAGEMENT
JACKSON, MISSISSIPPI

ADVERTISEMENT FOR BIDS

Sealed and electronic bids will be received at the Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management, 501 North West Street, Suite 1401 B, Jackson, Mississippi, 39201, until 2:00:00 p.m. on Tuesday, 09/17/2019 , for:

RE: GS# 527-019 Eastwood Structural Repairs (EMER)
Mississippi Department of Information Technology Services
RFx: 3160003083

at which time they will be publicly opened and read. Contract documents may be obtained from:

Professional: Hardy and Associates/Architect, PLLC
Address: 15260 Big John Road, Suite A
Biloxi, Mississippi 39532
Phone: 228-215-1851
Email: marty@hardyarchitect.com

A deposit of \$250.00 is required. Bid preparation will be in accordance with Instructions to Bidders bound in the project manual. The Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management reserves the right to waive irregularities and to reject any or all bids. NOTE: Telephones and desks will not be available for bidders use at the bid site.

Calvin R. Sibley, Bureau Director
Bureau of Building, Grounds and Real Property Management

8/15/2019, 8/22/2019

Crossword Puzzle

1	2	3		4	5	6	7	8	9
10				11					
12				13					
14			15				16		
17					18	19			
			20	21		22	23	24	25
26	27	28		29	30				
31			32				33		
34							35		
36							37		

ACROSS
1. Monosodium glutamate
4. Stuns
10. Frost
11. Very old age
12. Fox hole
13. Nissan's former name
14. False name
16. Twitching
17. Jab
18. State of being
20. Little Rock locale
22. Double-reed instrument
26. Part of a min.
29. Performers
31. Singer Bing
33. Spots
34. One-celled water animal
35. Ocean
36. Raving
37. Test

DOWN
1. Muffler company
2. Aroma
3. City
4. Raggedy Ann's friend
5. Florida City
6. Picnic pest
7. Relish
8. Decorative needle case
9. In ___ (together)
15. BB association
19. Drunkard
21. Jewish religious leader
23. Brag
24. Arrangement
25. Writings
26. Pock
27. Writer Bombeck
28. ___ skin cap
30. Greenish-blue color
32. Pose

© Feature Exchange

For information about advertising in

The Mississippi Link

please call:
601-896-0084

or e-mail:
jlinkads@bellsouth.net

www.mississippilink.com

Office
Space
for Rent

Garrett
Enterprises
Building

(Near Jackson Medical Mall)

2659 Livingston Road
Jackson, MS 39213

2500 Square Feet

Call: 601-209-9199

DENTAL MALPRACTICE

Dental implants and full mouth reconstruction are among a number of complicated and detailed procedures requiring specialized expertise. Unfortunately, people requiring this specialized care are not always referred to the proper specialist for treatment. This can lead to painful and costly results with complications such as pain, inflammation, infection or loss of teeth. If you have experienced a failed dental procedure requiring extensive additional treatment or revision surgery, including the improper placement of implants, you may have a legal claim. For a free evaluation of your claim please call:

601 714-1153
Lalor Bailey & Aby, PLLC
Attorneys at Law
Ridgeland, Mississippi

The hiring of an attorney is an important decision that should not be based solely upon advertisements. Free background information upon request.

THE BUSINESS OF
GOVERNMENT IS
THE BUSINESS OF
THE PEOPLE.

Search thousands of government public notices published in dozens of Mississippi newspapers — all in one convenient location.



MSPUBLICNOTICES.ORG

A free service of the Mississippi Press Association and your local newspaper

Cryptogram

A cryptogram is a puzzle where a sentence is encoded by substituting the actual letters of the sentence with different letters. The challenge of the puzzle is to 'decode' the sentence to reveal the original English sentence. We have provided a few of the decoded letters to help get you started.

Hint: Quote by James Taylor



A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
			M										R												
		M	E							E										M		E			
H	I	R	M		K	I	Z	Z		H	N	E	M		U	L	V	F		R	L	Q	M	U	
						M		E															M	E	
		G	V	H		R	L	Q	M	U		K	L	Q		H		G	V	U		H	I	R	M

© Feature Exchange

Sudoku

The challenge is to fill every row across, every column down, and every 3x3 box with the digits 1 through 9. Each 1 through 9 digit must appear only once in each row across, each column down, and each 3x3 box.

							2	9	
			1	4	8	3			
					6				
						7	5		
			3		2	8		6	
			7				3		
7	1					5			
2		6	3		4				
	5							8	

© Feature Exchange

Cryptogram Solution

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	H	I	J	K	L	M	N	O	P	Q	R	S	T	U	V	W	X	Y	Z
N	G	D	B	M	T	O	W	I	X	E	Z	R	Q	L	A	J	F	C	H	V	Y	K	S	U	P

T I M E W I L L T A K E Y O U R M O N E Y ,

H I R M K I Z Z H N E M U L V F R L Q M U ,

B U T M O N E Y W O N ' T B U Y T I M E .

G V H R L Q M U K L Q H G V U H I R M .

© Feature Exchange

Sudoku Solution

6	3	8	7	5	1	2	9	4
9	2	1	4	8	3	7	5	6
4	7	5	2	6	9	8	1	3
8	6	2	1	3	7	5	4	9
5	4	3	9	2	8	1	6	7
1	9	7	5	4	6	3	2	8
7	1	4	8	9	5	6	3	2
2	8	6	3	1	4	9	7	5
3	5	9	6	7	2	4	8	1

© Feature Exchange

Crossword Solution

M	S	G		A	M	A	Z	E	S
I	C	E		N	I	N	E	T	Y
D	E	N		D	A	T	S	U	N
A	N	O	N	Y	M		T	I	C
S	T	A	B		I	S			
				A	R		O	B	O
S	E	C		A	C	T	O	R	S
C	R	O	S	B	Y		A	D	S
A	M	O	E	B	A		S	E	A
R	A	N	T	I	N		T	R	Y

© Feature Exchange

PICK UP
THE MISSISSIPPI LINK
AT THE FOLLOWING LOCATIONS:

JACKSON

BULLY'S RESTAURANT

3118 Livingston Road

CASH & CARRY

Capitol Street and Monument Street

CITY HALL

219 S President St

GARRETT OFFICE COMPLEX

2659 Livingston Road

DOLLAR GENERAL

3957 Northview Dr (North Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

2030 N Siwell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

4331 Highway 80W

DOLLAR GENERAL

5990 Medgar Evers Blvd

DOLLAR GENERAL

1214 Capitol St (Downtown Jackson)

DOLLAR GENERAL

304 Briarwood Dr

DOLLAR GENERAL

2855 McDowell Rd

DOLLAR GENERAL

104 Terry Rd

J & A FUEL STORES

3249 Medgar Evers Blvd.

LIBERTY BANK AND TRUST

2325 Livingston Rd.

MCDADÉ'S MARKET

Northside Drive

MCDADÉ'S MARKET #2

653 Duling Avenue

PICADILLY CAFETERIA

Jackson Medical Mall

350 W Woodrow Wilson Avenue

SHELL FOOD MART

5492 Watkins Drive

SPORTS MEDICINE

Fortification and I-55

MURPHY USA

6394 Ridgewood Rd (North Jackson)

REVELL ACE HARDWARE

Terry Rd (South Jackson)

WALGREENS

380 W. Woodrow Wilson Ave

CANTON

A & I

716 Roby Street - Canton, MS

B & B

702 West North Street - Canton, MS

BOUTIQUE STORE

3355 North Liberty - Canton, MS

BULLY'S STORE

Church Street - Canton, MS

COMMUNITY MART

743 Ruby Street - Canton, MS

FRYER LANE GROCERY

Martin Luther King Drive - Canton, MS

HAMLIN FLORAL DESIGN

285 Peace Street - Canton, MS

JOE'S SANDWICH & GROCERY

507 Church Street - Canton, MS

K & K ONE STOP

110 West Fulton Street - Canton, MS

LACY'S INSURANCE

421 Peace Street - Canton, MS

SOUL SET BARBER SHOP

257 Peace Street - Canton, MS

TRAILER PARK GROCERY

22 Westside Drive - Canton, MS

BYRAM

DOLLAR GENERAL

125 Swinging Bridge Dr.

HAVIOR'S AUTO CARE

5495 I-55 South Frontage Road

VOWELL'S MARKET PLACE

5777 Terry Road

CITY HALL

Terry Road

CLINTON

DOLLAR GENERAL

807 Berkshire St - Clinton, MS

TERRY

SERVICE STATION

at Exit 78

CITY HALL

West Cunningham Avenue

RAYMOND

HINDS COMMUNITY COLLEGE

WELCOME CENTER

505 E. Main Street

SUNFLOWER GROCERY

122 Old Port Gibson Street,

Raymond, MS

LOVE FOOD MART

120 E. Main Street,

Raymond, MS

RAYMOND PUBLIC LIBRARY

126 W. Court Street, Raymond, MS

RAYMOND CITY HALL

110 Courtyard Square, Raymond

RAYMOND COURTHOUSE

UTICA

HUBBARD'S TRUCK STOP

Mississippi Hwy 18

PITT STOP

101 Hwy 18 & 27

BOLTON

BOLTON LIBRARY

BOLTON CITY HALL

MCAN

Mississippi Classified Advertising Network

To place your statewide classified ad order, call MS Press Services at 601-981-3060

Classes / Training

AIRLINES ARE HIRING - Get FAA approved hands on Aviation training. Financial aid for qualified students. Career placement assistance. Call Aviation Institute of Maintenance, 1-866-367-2510.

MEDICAL BILLING and CODING TRAINING. New Students Only. Call and Press 1. 100% online courses. Financial Aid Available for those who qualify. Call 1-844-664-5478

PHARMACY TECHNICIAN - ONLINE TRAINING AVAILABLE! Take the first step into a new career! Call now: 1-866-664-4140

For Sale

CHURCH FURNITURE: Does your church need pews, pulpit set, baptistry, steeple, windows? Big Sale on new cushioned pews and pew chairs. 1-800-231-8360. www.pews1.com

Insurance

DENTAL INSURANCE. Call Physicians Mutual Insurance Company for details. NOT just a discount plan, REAL coverage for 350+ procedures. 855-397-7045 or <http://www.dental50plus.com/mspress>. Ad# 6118

GET A-RATED DENTAL INSURANCE starting at around \$1 per day. Save 25% on Enrollment Now! No Waiting Periods. 200k+ Providers Nationwide. Everyone is Accepted! Call 662-584-6541 (M-F 9-5 ET)

LOWEST PRICES ON HEALTH INSURANCE. We have the best rates from top companies! Call Now! 601-203-3854

Medical Supplies

OXYGEN - Anytime, Anywhere. No tanks to refill. No deliveries. The All-New Inogen One G4 is only 2.8 pounds! FAA approved! FREE info kit: 888-964-0893. **VIAGRA and CIALIS USERS!** 50 Pills SPECIAL \$99.00 FREE Shipping! 100% guaranteed. CALL NOW! 844-821-3242

Miscellaneous

DONATE YOUR CAR TO CHARITY. Receive maximum value of write off for your taxes. Running or not! All conditions accepted. Free pickup. Call for details. 855-400-8263

STATEWIDE ADVERTISING available at one flat rate. Save yourself time, effort, and money by calling MS Press Services at 601-981-3060 to place your ad.

Services-General

DIRECTV NOW. No Satellite Needed. \$40/month. 65 Channels. Stream Breaking News, Live Events, Sports and On Demand Titles. No Annual Contract. No Commitment. CALL 1-844-394-7266
DISH Network \$59.99 For 190 Channels! Add High Speed Internet for ONLY \$14.95/month. Best Technology. Best Value. Smart HD DVR Included. FREE Installation. Some restrictions apply. Call 1-877-628-3143

Get DIRECTV! ONLY \$35/month! 155 Channels and 1000s of Shows/Movies On Demand (w/SELECT All Included Package.) PLUS Stream on Up to FIVE Screens Simultaneously at No Additional Cost. Call DIRECTV: 1- 855-978-3110 or satellitedealnow.com/MSPS.

Services-Financial

OVER \$10K IN DEBT? Be debt free in 24 to 48 months. No upfront fees to enroll. A+ BBB rated. Call National Debt Relief 844-719-8928.

Services-Legal

DENIED SOCIAL SECURITY DISABILITY? Appeal! If you're 50+, filed for SSD and denied, our attorneys can help get you approved! No money out of pocket! Call 601-203-3826

Services-Medical

A PLACE FOR MOM has helped over a million families find senior living. Our trusted, local advisors help find solutions to your unique needs at no cost to you. Call 1-601-812-5678.

Advertising
Solutions
That Deliver
STATEWIDE!



Place Your Classified Ad
STATEWIDE
In 100 Newspapers!

To order, call your local
newspaper or
MS Press Services at
601-981-3060.

STATEWIDE RATES:
Up to 25 words.....\$210
1 col. x 2 inch.....\$525
1 col. x 3 inch.....\$785
1 col. x 4 inch.....\$1050

Nationwide Placement
Available
Call MS Press Services
601-981-3060



Thank You

Thank you to the voters of
Senate District 27.

I look forward to hearing
from you and continuing
our work during the 2020
Legislative Session.



**Open Doors to Curiosity. Discovery.
Belonging.**

Step through our glass walls. Come explore the many
stories that connect us all as Mississippians.

520 North Front Street, Jackson
mississippimuseum.org



**MUSEUM OF
MISSISSIPPI
HISTORY**



Shine Light on the Power of Courage.

Explore the movement that changed the nation—and
the people it served.

520 North Front Street, Jackson
mississippicivilrights.org



**MISSISSIPPI
CIVIL RIGHTS
MUSEUM**

U-RENTAL Van Company



- New fleet of vans
- 12 & 15 passenger vans
- Unbeatable prices
- Unlimited miles
- Church / business trips
- Family vacation & more
- Cash or credit cards



3840 ROBINSON ROAD - JACKSON, MS 39209 - PHONE: 601-398-1162



BOOK REVIEW: “THE TUBMAN COMMAND”

BY ELIZABETH COBBS

C.2019, BRILLIANCE AUDIO • \$34.99 / \$51.99 CANADA • 10 DISCS, 12+ HOURS

C.2019, ARCADE • \$25.99 / \$34.99 CANADA • 327 PAGES

By Terri Schlichenmeyer
Columnist

You are the Big Kahuna. The boss, the one in charge, maker of decisions and teller of things to do. You’re the big cheese with all the responsibility and you ain’t bad at it. So how would you do if, as in the novel, “The Tubman Command” by Elizabeth Cobbs, the very lives of soldiers, women and children were in your hands?

On so many mornings, Harriet Tubman woke with the lingering feeling of her husband, John, lying next to her.

That hadn’t happened in fifteen years, though, not since she left him and joined the Underground Railroad. She wasn’t entirely sure where he was but she knew he’d barely recognize her. So much had changed since then.

All that was just useless thought for another day; there were more important things in front of Harriet. She was thinking of her meeting with General David Hunter of the Union, and how he was going to help her free a thousand slaves.

Just gaining the respect of the

soldiers was going to be a challenge.

Most folk thought that the person they called Moses was a man. Nobody ever thought a small woman could be so brave as to snatch slaves from beneath their owner’s noses, but there she was. And she was working on a plan that would boost the morale of the men, and show the Confederacy that the imposing position of Fort Sumter was no obstacle for the Union.

It was a mission that needed care. Every slave on the plantations around the Combahee

River knew there were Confederate explosives buried in the Combahee’s silt. At least one slave knew where they were; Harriet had to find him and learn what he knew, but he was on the notorious Lownes plantation. She’d need to go there and get out without the overseer, Pipkin, spotting her.

She’d have to help General Hunter find enough men to keep Charleston under control, too, so she’d need to convince more black men to join the cause. Folks didn’t think black soldiers could fight. They

didn’t think a “puny” woman could lead people to freedom, either, but they had seriously miscalculated...

It’s easy to place our heroes on a pedestal. We do it all the time, but “The Tubman Command” tips perch a bit.

No, you won’t think lesser of Harriet Tubman after you’ve heard this audiobook. Instead, you’ll see that “fierce” is too small a word for Tubman’s personality and her heroism – she repeatedly walked back into a plantation, after all – although author Elizabeth Cobbs re-

minds readers in so many ways that Tubman was still a woman, probably a mother, absolutely able to fall in love. This is subtly done with slight liberties taken in her plot aspects, as Cobbs explains in her author’s note.

That’s not a distraction. It, and the performance by Heidi Franklin, enhances a tale that will thrill you and make you scream “Noooooo!”

“The Tubman Command” is perfect for Civil War buffs, novel lovers, and anyone who wants a big story.





Sal & Mookie's
NEW YORK PIZZA & ICE CREAM JOINT

TASTE THE FUN!

We put the fun in funky Fondren. Our authentic New York style pizzas will wow the whole crew while the kids (and you!) have fun at the Scoop Shop crafting custom ice cream creations.

SALANDMOOKIES.COM | 601.368.1919 | 565 TAYLOR ST

Cool And Current





WJSU 88.5
your source for cool jazz and current music
www.wjsu.org



JSU

WRTM

SMOOTH 100.5 FM

WRTM-FM SMOOTH 100.5 FM, IS JACKSON’S URBAN RHYTHM AND BLUES STATION PLAYING FAMILIAR FAVORITES FROM THE 70’S, 80’S AND 90’S. TUNE IN TO HEAR JUST THE RIGHT MIX OF BLUES AND TODAY’S BIGGEST HITS.

Phi Beta Sigma 16th Annual Image Awards and Scholarship Banquet

By Jackie Hampton
Publisher

Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc., Mu Sigma Chapter, held its 16th Annual Image Awards Program and Scholarship Banquet August 9 at the Mississippi e-Center in Jackson.

Vernon W. Jasper, who has chaired this event for 13 years stated, “we are thankful to God that this year’s event was a great success due to the support of the honorees and their service to the community and also to the MS Kidney Foundation, the fraternity’s partner organization, for having served as a co-sponsor. He also credits the brotherhood of Mu Sigma Chapter and those attending this year’s event for its’ success.

The Master of Ceremony was Rob Jay, a longtime sports broadcaster, now serving as executive director of communications at Jackson State University. Rev. Bernard Mitchell gave the invocation followed by greetings from Mark Young, state director of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Lorenzo Grimes, Mu Sigma Chapter president and Lucille Green of Zeta Phi Beta Sorority.

Prior to dinner being served, Attorney Jimmy Wilkins gave an overview of Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. After grace by Rev. Aaron Johnson, dinner music was provided by Willie Silas & Friends.

The recipients of the image awards in specific categories were: Michael Quinn, Business; Neddie Winters, Religion (accepted by son Audwin); Elaine Hayes Anthony, Media; Bobby Cooper, Education; Eddie Payton, Sports; Steven James Humanitarian; and Tiffany Graves, Esq., Law.

Acknowledgements of the awardees were given by Synarus Green with closing remarks from Grimes, Jasper, and Hall Carter of the MS Kidney Foundation.

PHOTOS BY ANITA YOUNG



Jasper, Audwin Winters



Hayes-Anthony, Grimes



Jasper, Cooper



James, Grimes



Jasper, Graves



Quinn, Grimes



Jasper, Payton



Green



Image Award recipients



Rob Jay



Rev. Bernard Mitchell



Mark Young



Lorenzo Grimes



Lucille Green



Atty. Wilkinson



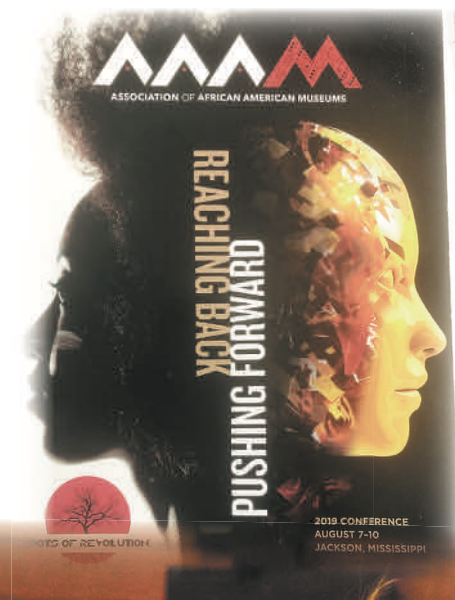
Rev. Aaron Johnson



Hall Carter



Zeta Phi Beta Sorority, Inc. - Alpha Delta Zeta Chapter and Phi Beta Sigma Fraternity, Inc. - Mu Sigma Chapter



Association of African American Museums 2019 Conference

August 7 - 10, 2019 • Jackson, MS

PHOTOS BY JAY JOHNSON



Hinds County School District Weekly Update

ENGAGING-EMPOWERING-ENSURING-EXCELLENCE

HCS D Host Annual Convocation 2019

“Planning to Act for Impact”



Pictured L-R: Dr. Linda Laws, board president / District 3; Carolyn Samuel, board secretary / District 5; and Robbie Anderson, board member / District 2.



Dr. Delesicia Martin, Superintendent of Education for the HCS D, outlines district's expectations and three major goals



Jana Carter, assistant principal and Bobby Taylor, head principal of RES.



La'Tesha Roby, assistant principal and Dr. Will Smith, head principal of UEMS.



Dr. Linda Laws welcomed all employees.



Bobbi Burdett, curriculum coordinator, addressed delivering effective commands, desired student compliance.



Dr. William Sellers, assistant superintendent, addressed the employees on policy and the Mississippi Educator Code of Ethics.

District administrators performed Ain't No Mountain High Enough & Hinds County Proud



Pictured L-R: Superintendent Martin and Assistant Superintendent Sellers, singing Ain't No Mountain High Enough – E4.



Backup singers pictured L-R: Frankie Blackmon; Sandra Kyles, Chasedy Bergold and Michelle Ray.



Ivan Smith, maintenance director, singing Hinds County Proud – E4.



District administrators signing backup to Hinds County Proud – E4.

HCS D

employees

recognized

for

achievement

